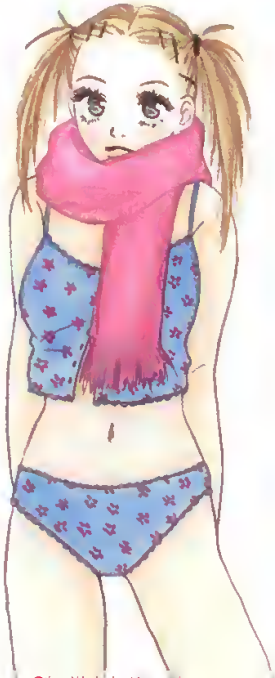

Other Works by Mimori Ao

Sonna no Koi ja Nai (That's Not Love)
Anta Nanka Iranai (I Don't Need You)
Dakishimetai yo Motto (I Want to Hold You More)
I LOVE YOU
Kamisama no Iu Toori (As the God of Death Dictates)(1 Volume Ongoing)

MARGARET COMICS

That's Not Love

MIMORI AO

That's Not Love ◆ MIMORI AO

3187◆集英社

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雑誌 57231—87

MARGARET COMICS

Minako is getting the cold shoulder from Hirobayashi, an upperclassman she likes a lot. However, there's also Shimanuki, an underclassman who always shows her nothing but positive encouragement and happy feelings. A risqué "crystal love!"

Included Works

Why is it this Painful?
That's Not Love
Sweetheart
I Just Want You to Be With Me
Holding Hands

Comment from the Author

Reading the title *That's Not Love*, have you thought, *"Well, what kind of love IS it then?"* If so, I'm sorry to have confused you. Since I'm a gloomy kind of person, any of the works I do are probably gloomy as well. But, as long as someone enjoys reading my stories, I'm happy.

THAT'S NOT LOVE

Story 1 "Why is it This Painful"

BY MIMORI AO

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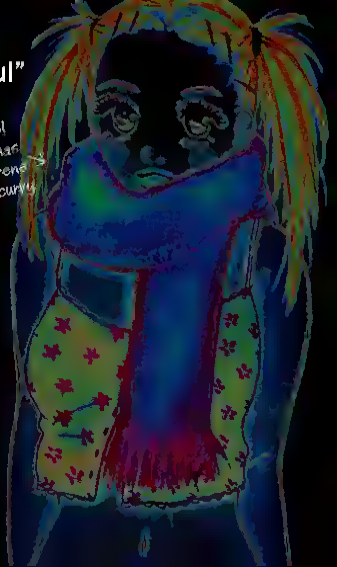
ADAPTED
Vanderguard

EDITED
sneaky_ninja

TYPESET
dandan

QUALITY CHECKED
sneaky_ninja, Vanderguard, and sophenale



♣ Table of Contents ♣

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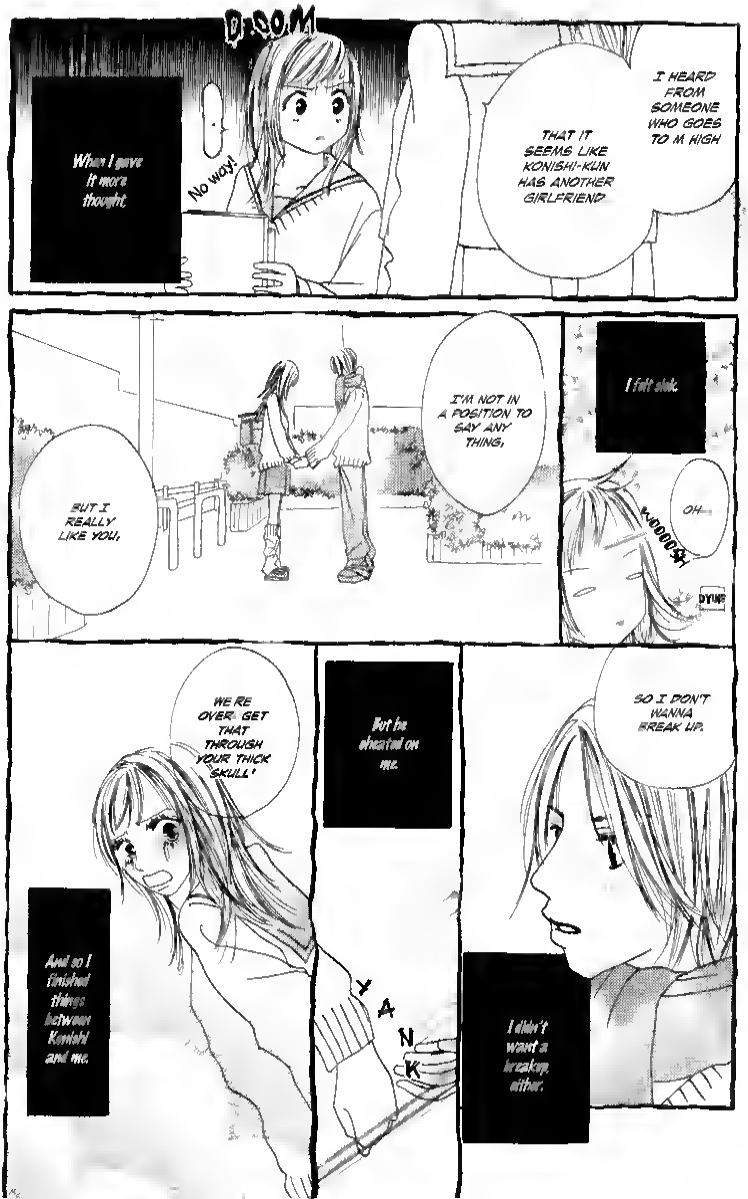
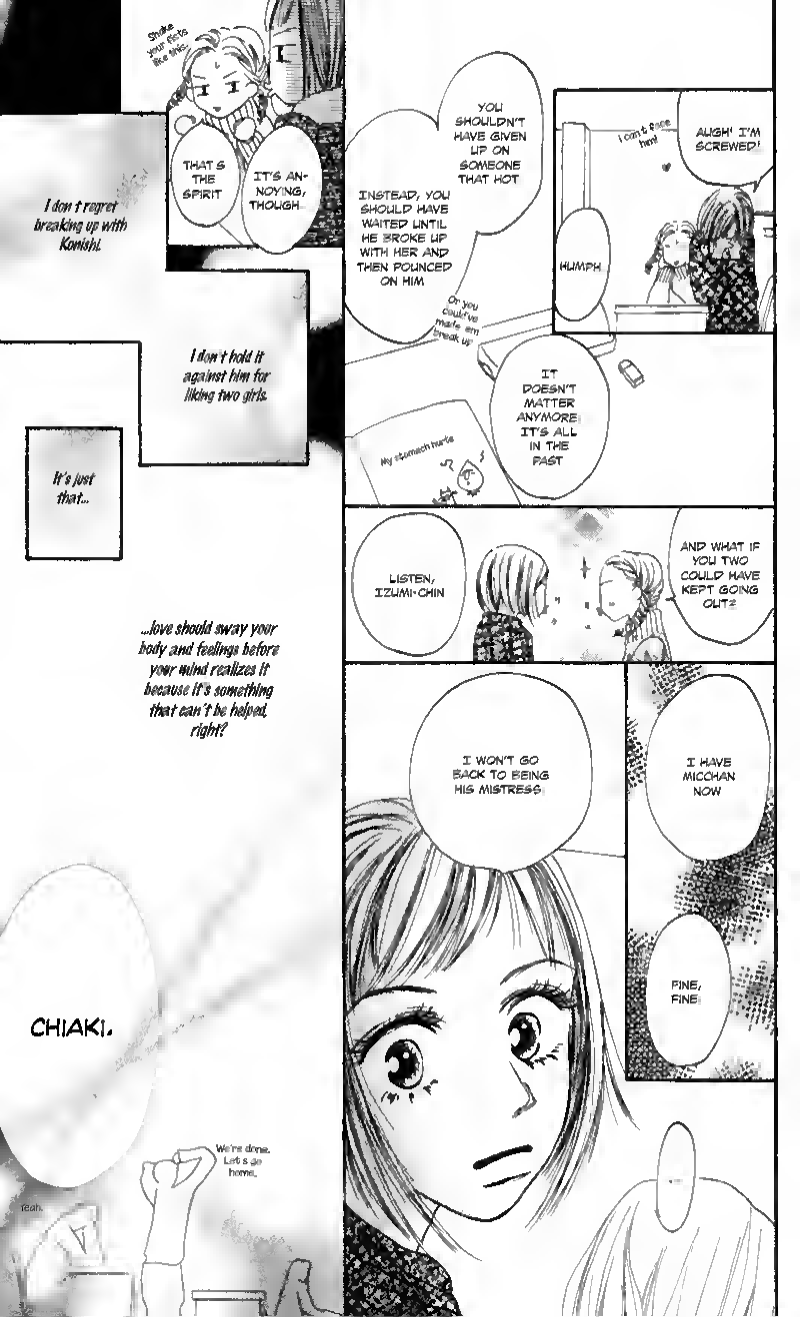
♥That's Not Love——————043
♥Sweetheart——————095
♥I Just Want You to Be With Me——131
♥Holding Hands——————161

WHY IS IT
THIS PAINFUL?
Mimori Ao

Grab
LOOK! THERE ARE STILL SEATS AVAILABLE IN THE BACK
Lucky!
WHERE'S THE LOVE IN THAT?
BEATS ME. I SHOULD ASK HIM WHAT HE WANTS
CHIAKI, WHAT ARE YOU GETTING MICCHAN FOR CHRISTMAS?
CHIAKI?

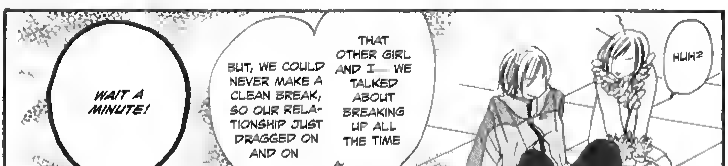
I don't believe in coincidences.
KONISHI
WHO IS HE?
WHAT'S HIS NAME?
HE'S
A GUY I KNEW A LONG TIME AGO.
He surprised me.
WELL? WHO IS HE?
HE'S SUPER HOT.
I MEAN
THERE ISN'T MUCH TO TELL.
Cough
You sure you're not mistaken?!
WHAT?!
GIMME DETAILS NOW!
YOU KNOW THAT HOTTIE?!
We met during our second year of high school.
KONISHI 2ND YEAR
CHIAKI, 2ND YEAR
AH, I SEE.
interesting..
We fell in love at first sight and started dating.


When I gave it more thought
No way!
BOOM
I HEARD FROM SOMEONE WHO GOES TO M HIGH
THAT IT SEEMS LIKE KONISHI-KUN HAS ANOTHER GIRLFRIEND
I'M NOT IN A POSITION TO SAY ANY THING,
BUT I REALLY LIKE YOU,
I felt sick.
OH...
WOOOOSH
DYING
SO I DON'T WANNA BREAK UP.
I didn't want a breakup, either.
But he cheated on me.
YANK
WE'RE OVER. GET THAT THROUGH YOUR THICK SKULL!
And so I finished things between Konishi and me.


Shake your feet like this!
THAT'S THE SPIRIT
IT'S ANNOYING, THOUGH
I don't regret breaking up with Konishi.
I don't hold it against him for liking two girls.
It's just that...
...love should sway your body and feelings before your mind realizes it because it's something that can't be helped, right?
CHIAKI.
We're done. Let's go home.
Yeah.
YOU SHOULDN'T HAVE GIVEN UP ON SOMEONE THAT HOT
INSTEAD, YOU SHOULD HAVE WAITED UNTIL HE BROKE UP WITH HER AND THEN POUNCED ON HIM
Oh you could've made em break up
I can't face him!
ALIGH! I'M SCREWED!
HUMPH
IT DOESN'T MATTER ANYMORE. IT'S ALL IN THE PAST
My stomach hurts
LISTEN, IZUMI-CHIN
AND WHAT IF YOU TWO COULD HAVE KEPT GOING OUT?
I WON'T GO BACK TO BEING HIS MISTRESS.
I HAVE MICCHAN NOW
FINE, FINE.

OH.
LET'S USE THIS CLASS-ROOM.
over here
I DO, BUT.
DO YOU HAVE TO GO TO CLASS NOW?
LIWAH!
IT'S COLD!
Where's the thermostat?
ALL RIGHT.
We gotta cuddle.
MISS, I'M BORROWING CHIAKI FOR A BIT
JUST SKIP IT.
BUT I—
WHAT?
I'll look after your bag.
HAVE FUN! ♡
WAI..
WAIT, KONISHI!
Drag Drag Drag
I TOLD YOU I HAVE CLASS!
IZUMI-CHIN!
THAT'S BETTER IT'S MUCH WARMER ♡
...
shiver
What are we doing?

IT'S BEEN A REALLY LONG TIME
ABOUT TWO YEARS, RIGHT?
BY THE WAY, WHY ARE YOU EVEN AT THIS COLLEGE?
I was really surprised to see you.
YEAH TWO YEARS SINCE WE BROKE UP
THAT'S MY LINE
WHAT?
NOTHING
THAT'S MY LINE!
Why you...!
THAT WAS A DIFFICULT TIME FOR ME
THE NEXT DAY?
WHY SO SOON?
What?
AFTER WE SPLIT,
WELL
BECAUSE YOU AND I BROKE UP
I CUT OFF ALL COMMUNICATION WITH HER THE NEXT DAY


WAIT A MINUTE!
BUT, WE COULD NEVER MAKE A CLEAN BREAK; SO OUR RELATIONSHIP JUST DRAGGED ON AND ON
THAT OTHER GIRL AND I— WE TALKED ABOUT BREAKING UP ALL THE TIME
HUH?

THEN WHAT ARE YOU ASKING ME?
WHAT THE HELL KIND OF ANSWER IS THAT?! I DIDN'T EVEN BRING UP GOING OUT!
Chisato-san, calm down.
DON'T EXPECT ME TO SAY SOMETHING STUPID LIKE, "I'LL WAIT, SO BREAK UP WITH YOUR GIRLFRIEND." THERE'S NO WAY I'D WAIT FOR YOU!
This is wrong.

HOW LONG AGO WAS THAT?
BEFORE WE STARTED GOING OUT

WHAT?!
AND NOW, I'D LIKE TO GO OUT WITH YOU AGAIN.

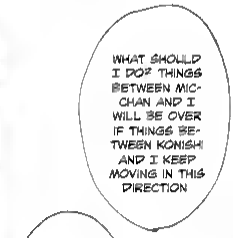
If that's so, why'd we break up?
Wait a minute.
Does that..
Does it mean that Konishi chose me that time?
ARE YOU TELLING ME—

...THAT EVER SINCE I LEFT YOU, YOU'VE BEEN WAITING FOR ME?
I had absolutely no idea he felt that way.
WHAT?
KONISHI, YOU BROKE MY HEART BACK THEN
COLLAPSE
WITH YOU BEING SO CUTE, THERE'S NO WAY I CAN RESIST
I'LL KISS YOU.
IF YOU DON'T STOP ME, I'LL REALLY DO IT
Do I or do I not have a boyfriend?
Is this good or bad?

Before I made up my mind, my heart and body had already decided for me.
Love ... really is naughty.
WELL, I'VE GOT TO GET TO WORK.
OK.
OH,
UMM, KONISHI...
WHAT IS IT?
I have a boyfriend!
?
spin
But...
Is it true?
spin
Have I been waiting for him ever since I broke it off?
spin
Or was it that kiss that has made me like this?
KISS
...

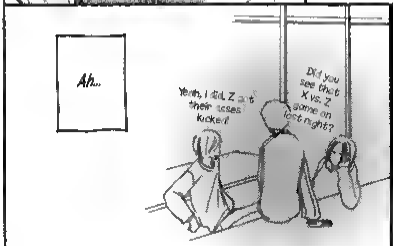
WAIT...!
WHY DID YOU KISS ME IN PUBLIC?!
WELL, YOU WERE STARING AT ME, SO I THOUGHT YOU WANTED ME TO.
YOU IDIOT!
SEE YA
I...didn't tell him.
CRAP.
What am I supposed to do now?!
Oh, jeez.
Even though I'm at a loss for what to do,
when he said, "I'll kiss you" I was really happy
And when he did, I forgot everything, even my boyfriend.
And I heard him when he said that we weren't finished.
HEY,
WELCOME BACK

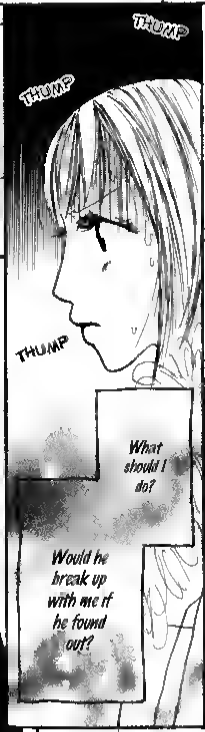
YEP. I TOLD HIM TO BRING SNACKS WHEN HE COMES BACK LATER.
HE DID?
I like making mischief! ♡


WHAT SHOULD I DO? THINGS BETWEEN MIC-CHAN AND I WILL BE OVER IF THINGS BE-TWEEN KONISHI AND I KEEP MOVING IN THIS DIRECTION

OH, YEAH, MICCHAN CAME BY EARLIER

WHY ISN'T IT OVER BETWEEN US?!
So there was something between you two.
BECAUSE OF LOVE!


Ah...
Yeah, I did. Z and their asses kicked!
Di'd you see the K vs. Z game on last night?


THUMP
THUMP
THUMP
What should I do?
Would he break up with me if he found out?

Oh, no.
Did he find out already?

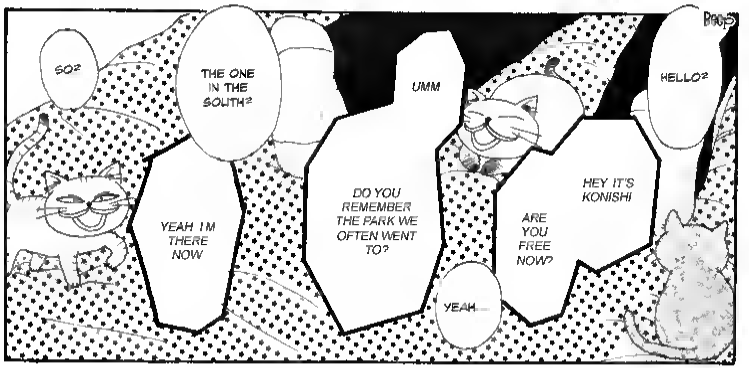
MICCHAN-
OH!
YOU FINALLY CAME, CHII-

What am I think-ing? There's no way she'd he would know...
Clack
Clack
Clack

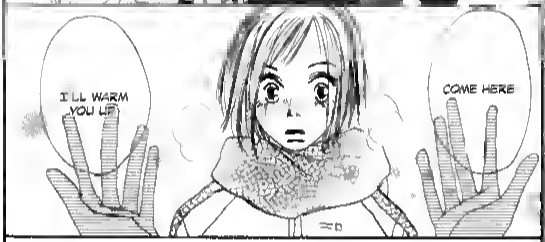
I can't smile and pretend that nothing's wrong.
CHIAKI, WAIT
HA HA HA HA HA
That's funny
WERE YOU MAKING OUT IN AN EMPTY CLASSROOM SOMEWHERE?
STUNNED
Found ya at last.
WHERE'D YOU GO SKIP OFF TO?
CHIAKI-CHAN'S FICKLE
thump
YES?
WHAT IS IT?
thump
thump
I'M SORRY IT'S IMPOSSIBLE
HUH? WHAT?
What's impossible?
THE LOUIS VUITTON BAG YOU WANTED FOR CHRISTMAS
IT'S EXPENSIVE, SO I CAN'T BUY IT THIS MONTH
I had to get a loan for a bike
I'M SORRY
clap
JUST FORGIVE ME THIS ONCE
Miechan...

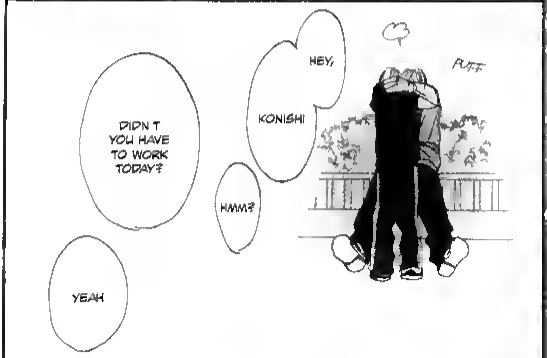
I can't do it.
No, that's not it
How can I tell him the reason why I'm upset?
WAH!
YOU WANTED IT THAT MUCH?
I'M SORRY. I'LL GET IT NEXT TIME FOR SURE!
panic
panic
OK...
depressed
What should I do?
HOW IRRITATING!
THIS IS ABSOLUTELY MADDENING!
I'm too wound up in the kind picture.
I DON'T BELIEVE IT!
I'M SHOCKED!
HOW CAN YOU DATE TWO GIRLS AT ONCE, BE FOUND OUT, AND STILL ACT ALL COMPOSED?!

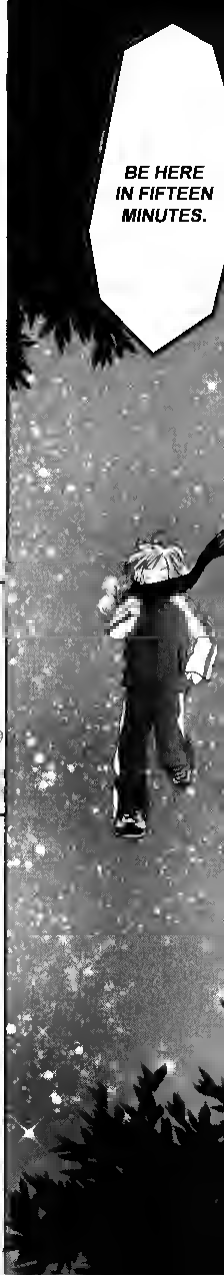
...there was no reason why he should've been so composed.
That time...
SORRY
It's not that I've begun to hate him.
It is possible to like two people at once.
Though...
I should turn him down. It's the best choice.
I'll tell him
But it's just that I can't turn him away coldly
It was hard to say no to Konishi because we have a history together
ring
ring


SO?
THE ONE IN THE SOUTH?
UMM
Beep
HELLO?
YEAH I'M THERE NOW
DO YOU REMEMBER THE PARK WE OFTEN WENT TO?
ARE YOU FREE NOW?
HEY IT'S KONISHI
YEAH...

SORRY FOR BEING SUDDEN.
SORRY I'M LATE, THANKS FOR WAITING.
YOU RAN ALL THE WAY HERE?
Wearing a jersey, hmm?
YEAH.
YOUR NOSE IS RED FROM THE COLD.


I'LL WARM YOU UP.
COME HERE


DIDN'T YOU HAVE TO WORK TODAY?
HEY, KONISHI
HMM?
YEAH
PUFF.


BE HERE IN FIFTEEN MINUTES.

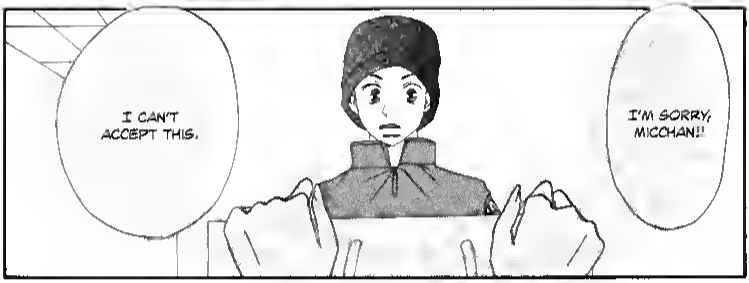
I RACED OVER HERE WHEN I WAS DONE
I used my bike.
I DIDN'T WANNA STAND AROUND TALKING TO MY COWORKERS
YOU DID?
WHY...?
Ha ha!
YOU WANTED TO SEE ME THAT MUCH?
YEP.
Cause I'm impulsive.
AND AS SOON AS I SAW YOU,
I KNEW I COULDN'T LET YOU GO
LET'S SPEND THE NIGHT TOGETHER.
No way! I can't believe this is happening!
I still haven't broken up with Minhan yet.
Oh God, what should I do?!
I'm also wearing my pajamas right now...

The truth is... I don't wanna go home.
HMM...
CHIAKI?
MMM
OH,
YOU'RE AWAKE?
Snore
Snore
Snore
B O I N G
MMM
OW
OUCH!
WAH!
BE HONEST.
WHAT?
CHIAKI
I FEEL LIKE I'M GONNA DIE
I can't tell Konishi that I have a boyfriend already
I am happy.
But I'm also stuck between a rock and a hard place.
And I betrayed Miechan.
JUST ADMIT THAT YOU'RE HAPPY

I don't even have any free time to think about it.
HELLO, MICCHAN?
IT'S CHIAKI
ARE YOU COMING TO SCHOOL TODAY?
YEAH, I GUESS YOU ARE
LISTEN, I WANNA SEE YOU FOR A BIT AT LUNCH.
OK
THEN, AT THE USUAL PLACE AT FOUR.
...
OK
BYE-BYE
beep
CHIAKI, I'M SORRY
FOR WHAT?
I SHOULD'VE STOPPED TEASING YOU ABOUT HIM YESTERDAY
WOULD YOU HAVE COME TO THE SAME DECISION OTHERWISE?
WHAT?
I...

That's right
I've already given him so many excuses.
MICCHAN WOULD'VE GOTTEN RID OF YOU, ANYWAY.
IF YOU WERE TO CONTINUE DRAGGING IT ON LIKE THIS,
WELL...
It's making me sorta dizzy.
IT'S GOOD IF YOUR FEELINGS HAVE DECIDED FOR YOU.
I'm clearly cheating on him now.
YO!
Smooch
WAH!
HERE, THIS IS FOR YOU!
Don't surprise me like that.
MI—
MICCHAN—
THUMP
THUMP
THUMP
WELL, I HAVE ANOTHER SURPRISE FOR YOU!
SMOKING AREA

IT'S THE LOUIS VUITTON BAG...
Oh, no.
...YOU SAID YOU WANTED.
MY BROTHER'S FRIEND SOLD IT TO ME CHEAP. ♡
IT'S A BIT EARLY FOR CHRISTMAS...
I'M SORRY!!
BUT I DID SAY THAT I COULDN'T GET IT AT ALL, SO...


I CAN'T ACCEPT THIS.
I'M SORRY, MICCHAN!!

I have to tell him... I just can't tell him now!
WHY? IS IT OLD?

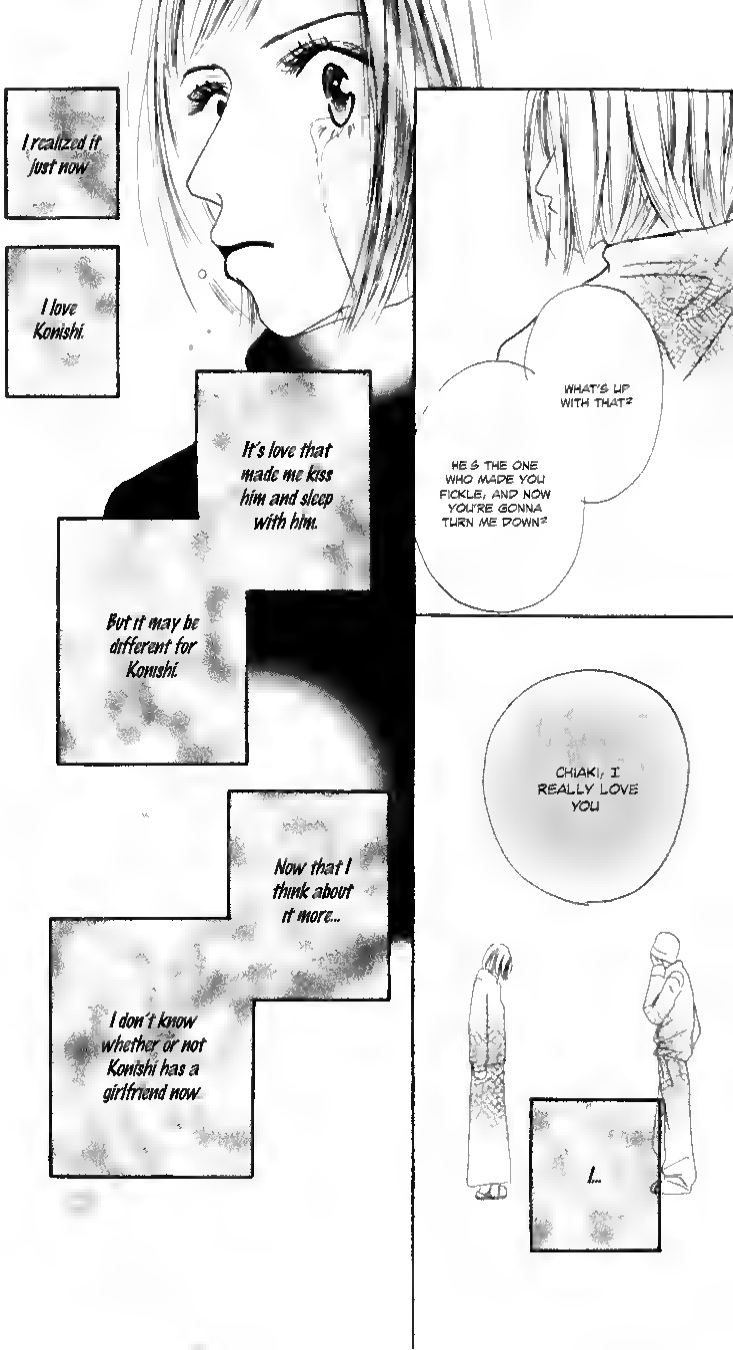
HEY, CHIAKI.

No way.
CRACKLE
WERE YOUR PARENTS MAD AT YOU THIS MORNING?
You got back in the morning.
GLARE
What the hell am I supposed to do?!
I UNDERSTAND NOW.

WHEN YOU YELLED AT ME, ANGRY AND HURT,
THIS IS HOW YOU FELT THAT TIME,
WAIT, KONI-SHI!
grasp
JUST LEAVE ME ALONE FOR A BIT.
No.
Konishi, you don't under-stand.
Wait a minute.
WAIT A.
SORRY.

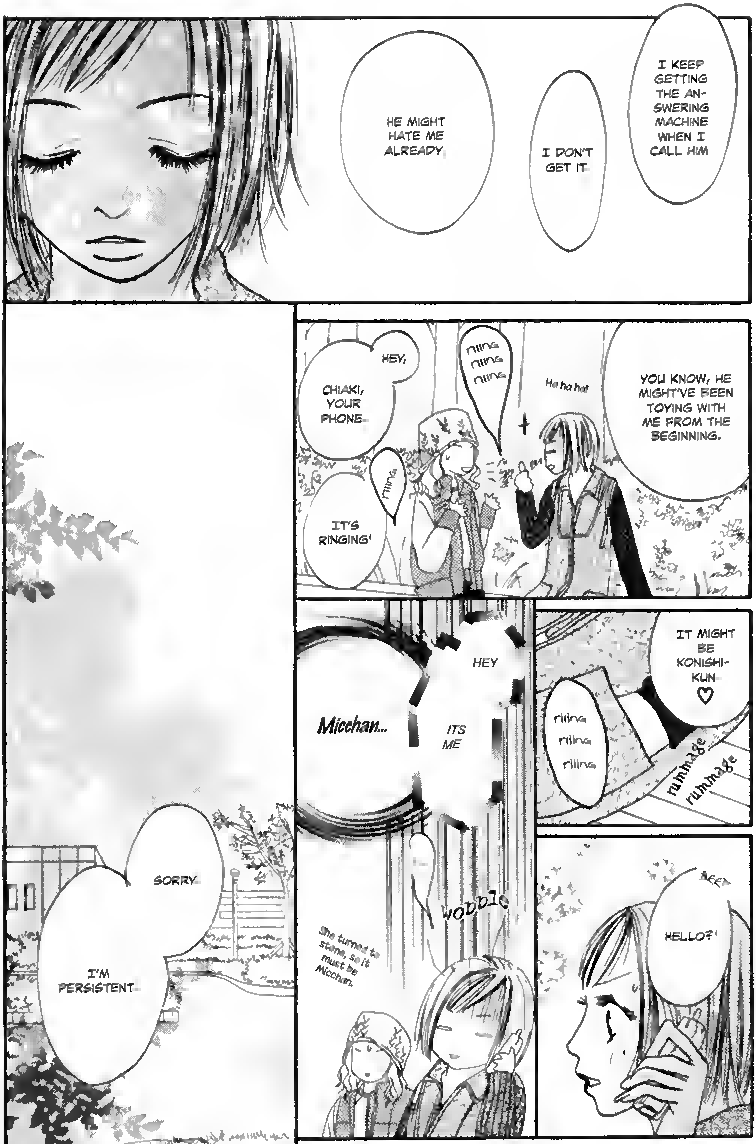
I'm the worst.
Ah jeez. All right already.
AT A HOTEL
HMM...
SO, WHILE I WAS GETTING THIS BAG...
...YOU WERE SLEEPING WITH HIM?
YOU WERE WITH HIM UNTIL MORNING, HUH? JUST WHERE WERE YOU, THEN?
STOMP
I'LL DEFINITELY KILL HIM
YOU CAN'T BE SERIOUS!
YOU WHAT?
I'M GONNA KILL HIM.

I'M SORRY, I'M SORRY!
SO JUST STOP, PLEASE!!
SHUT UP! LET GO!
STOP, MICCHAN! PLEASE!
NO!
I WAS THE ONE WHO GOT INVOLVED!
YOU THINK I'LL KEEP QUIET ABOUT HIM TOUCHING MY GIRL-FRIEND?
SHUT UP!
I'M SORRY.
BUT I LOVE HIM.
SLAP


I realized it just now
I love Konishi.
It's love that made me kiss him and sleep with him.
But it may be different for Konishi.
Now that I think about it more...
I don't know whether or not Konishi has a girlfriend now
WHAT'S UP WITH THAT?
HE'S THE ONE WHO MADE YOU FICKLE, AND NOW YOU'RE GONNA TURN ME DOWN?
CHIAKI, I REALLY LOVE YOU
I...

YEAH
THAT SUCKS, HUH?
IS THAT SO?
NOT AT ALL.
DID MICCHAN REALLY UNDERSTAND WHAT YOU WERE GETTNG AT?
"I'LL CALL YOU SOON."
REALLY?
It's never opened like something else entirely
Yeah, it has.
WELL, THAT WAS A PRETTY BAD ATTEMPT AT A BREAK UP
WHAT ABOUT KONISHI-KUN?

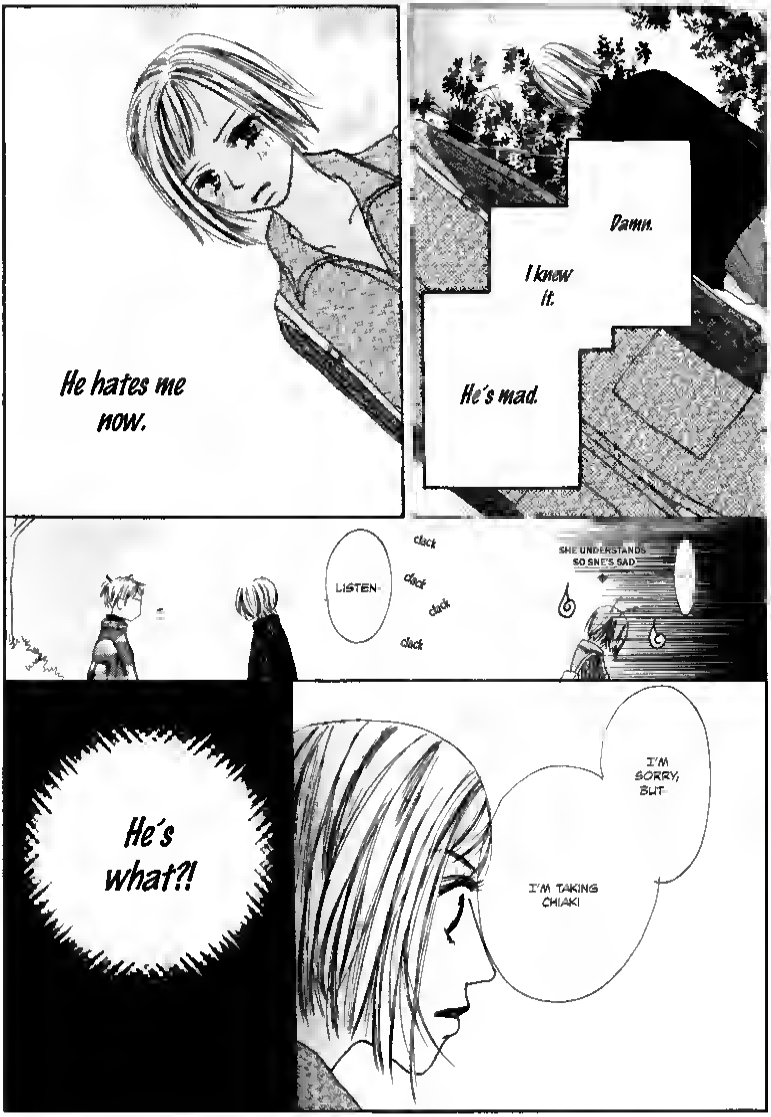
I don't know whether or not he even loves me.


I KEEP GETTING THE ANSWERING MACHINE WHEN I CALL HIM
I DON'T GET IT
HE MIGHT HATE ME ALREADY
YOU KNOW, HE MIGHT'VE BEEN TOYING WITH ME FROM THE BEGINNING.
Ha ha ha!
rilina rilina rilina
rilina
HEY, CHIAKI, YOUR PHONE
IT'S RINGING!
IT MIGHT BE KONISHI-KUN
rilina rilina rilina
rummage rummage
HEY
Micchan...
ITS ME
She turned to stone, so it must be Micchan.
wobble
HELLO?
SORRY.
I'M PERSISTENT.

JUST HEAR ME OUT.
SO—
ARE YOU GOING OUT WITH HIM?
HUH?
I DON'T KNOW
WHAT DO YOU MEAN? DON'T YOU LIKE HIM?
WHAT'S HIS PROBLEM?
UNEASY ATMOSPHERE
I DON'T KNOW!
WERE YOU GOING OUT WITH HIM BEFORE YESTERDAY?
IT'S OVER BETWEEN US!
I LOVE HIM AND THAT'S ALL THAT MATTERS!

MICCHAN, I THINK WE SHOULD BREAK UP QUIETLY
THERE'S NO WAY WE CAN BE TOGETHER
Ah! It's...
WELL, THERE'S SOMETHING I DON'T GET ABOUT THAT.
FIRST OF ALL, I DON'T WANT TO BREAK UP WITH YOU.
...Konishi! Why is he here?!
HEY!
CHIAKI?!
dash

I'M SORRY
KONISHI.
KONISHI!
I'M SO SORRY.
KONISHI...!
FLAT-OUT IGNORED GIRL
Huh?


He hates me now.
Damn.
I knew it.
He's mad.
LISTEN-
clack
clack
clack
clack
SHE UNDERSTANDS SO SHE'S SAD
He's what?!
I'M SORRY, BUT
I'M TAKING CHIAKI

LET'S GO
WHAT?
UMM
...
Your mouth's open.
ARE YOU UNHAPPY WITH THIS?
HEY!
TURN
WALK

STOP
MICCHA~
IT'S FINE, LET'S GO
BUT...
I'LL TELL YOU THIS NOW, CHIAKI.
DON'T WORRY
Push
Push
Push
YOU'RE MINE.
I don't care what anyone else has to say about it
ALL RIGHT
LET'S GO SOMEWHERE
YOUR WAY?
WE'LL DO THINGS MY WAY
AN GRY
I'll kill him.
I'll beat him to death.
What a scary expression she has!
WELL?
I'M YOURS.

Do you love me?
pat
WAIT FOR ME.
Konishi.
!!
I CAN SEE YOUR UNDERWEAR!
Let's get going
Konishi...

OWW...
It hurts so bad I wanna cry
TURN THIS WAY FOR A SIT!
WHAT? FINE.
You're kiddi...
FINE!!
WHAT'S WITH THAT FACE?
Eeek!
BE QUIET, BUT SHOW ME YOUR FACE. LOOK AT ME!
WHAT? WHAT'S WRONG...?
Is there something on my face?!
DOES IT HURT?
I SAID, OWW
SORRY, OK?
LISTEN, YOU
DO YOU WANNA HIT ME?

KONISHI...?
YEAH?
I REALLY LOVE YOU.
I KNOW
DO YOU LOVE ME?
YOU'LL MAKE ME KISS YOU AGAIN IF YOU KEEP SAYING CUTE THINGS

The whole world could disappear...

I don't care if someone gets hurt because of me.

I could be the worst person in the world...

...because all that matters...

...is that we love each other and that we're in each other's arms.

《The End》

THAT'S NOT LOVE

Story 2 "That's Not Love"

BY MIMORI AO

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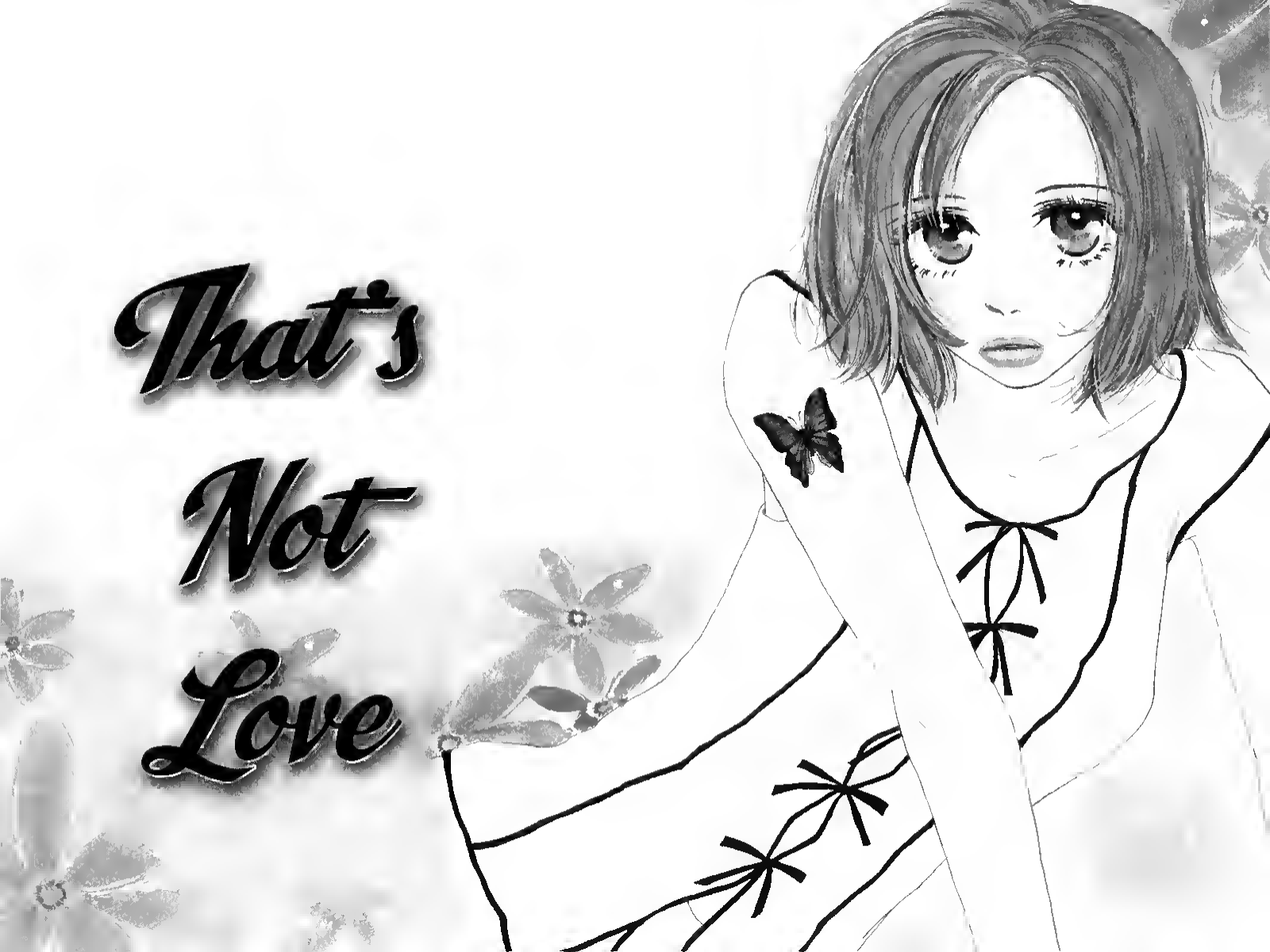
I fell apart when Senpai ended our relationship

He said that he was sick of me.

I was hopelessly in love with him, so I did what he asked.

I accepted the breakup without giving him a single complaint.

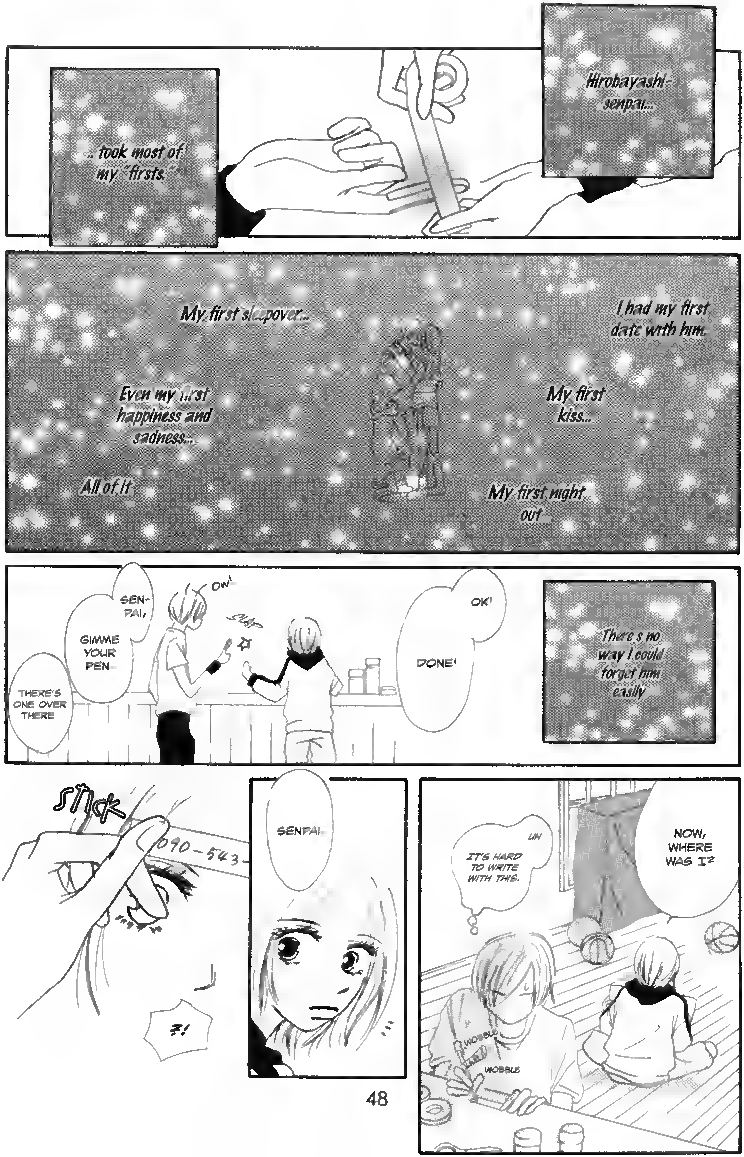
That's Not Love



Some picture I tried to draw

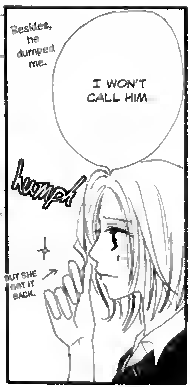
I added an omake page at the end of this chapter. Please look at it in your spare time!
Smile
I like the curves on the female body

SENPAI! MINAKO-SENPAI!
I JAMMED MY FINGER. I NEED BANDAGE TAPE.
GET IT YOUR-SELF.
OH, WELL...
AND JUST WHEN I TOOK GREAT LENGTHS TO GET HIRO-SAWASHI-SENPAI'S NEW NUMBER, TOO...
So dis-appointed.
throb
throb
CAN'T YOU SEE I'M BUSY?
BETSOMA
YOU SEEM LIKE YOU'RE GETTING OVER HIM.
SHUT UP! I MAY NOT LOOK IT, BUT I'M DEVOTED TO HIM!
You sure are irritating.


...took most of my "firsts."
Hirobayashi-senpai...
My first sleepover...
I had my first date with him.
Even my first happiness and sadness...
My first kiss...
All of it
My first night out...
SENPAI,
GIMME YOUR PEN.
THERE'S ONE OVER THERE
OK!
DONE!
OK!
There's no way I could forget him easily
stick
090-543-
?!
SENPAI
...
UH
IT'S HARD TO WRITE WITH THIS.
NOW, WHERE WAS I?
WOBBLE
WOBBLE
WOBBLE

hug
YOU'RE ACTUALLY A NICE GUY!
WAH!
WHAT THE?! QUIT IT!
OH MA-NUK
YOU
WHAT ...?
Kiss?
Bandage tape?
PEEL
Seems like he recently got a new one
IT'S WHAT S-HIS-NAME'S CELL PHONE NUMBER
USE IT OR DON'T. DO WHAT YOU WANT
I know I shouldn't pine for him.
But nevertheless I can't forget him, and I can't just ignore him, right?
YOU'RE NAIVE.
Still, I think I'll naturally forget him at some point.

YOU SURE ARE A SISSY.
YEAH, I KNOW


Besides, he dumped me.
I WON'T CALL HIM
WUMP
BUT SHE WANT IT BACK.

Here, it's been confiscated.
NO, KAI-CHAN!
IF YOU KEEP THIS, YOU'LL DWELL ON THE PAST, RIGHT?!
GIVE IT BACK!

KLACK
YO!
YO!
LONG TIME NO SEE YOU DELINQUENT MANAGERS.
EH
HIROBAYASHI-SENPAI?
TAKING YOUR AFTERNOON NAP DURING CLUB TIME AS USUAL?

I— I CAN'T HOLD IT IN.
tremble
MINAKO! MINAKO, GET A HOLD OF YOUR-SELF!
tremble
Hirobayashi-sempai's here!
ALL RIGHT! ♡ I HAVEN'T PLAYED BASKETBALL IN A WHILE
TAKAHASHI, YOU READY?
OH, HERE'S MY TOWEL
THANKS FOR TODAY ♡
Wait!
THANKS FOR WAITING. LET'S GO!
OHHH, AWESOME. I LOVE BASKET-BALL
YEAH
clack-
slide

How can he act like this?
What was with his attitude just now?!
Am I being too easy by letting myself expect something from him?
But, I wonder...
DOES HIROBAYASHI-SENPAI HAVE A GIRLFRIEND?
TURN
180°
twitch
I-I DUNNO!
?!
If he still doesn't have a girlfriend then...
LIKE AN EXORCIST!
THAT WAS SCARY
She's a demon.
...is it too early to give up on getting back with him?
It was a month ago when he said he was sick of me.
Maybe he's had a change of heart
If so,
GOOD WORK!
then I've got nothing to lose in trying to convey my feelings to him now, right?
GOOD WORK!
BYE-BYE.

Want to eat out?
Meh, I'm hungry.
Good job!
SE
SENPAI!
YOU DID A GOOD JOB!
PANT
IDIOT.
YOU SAID SOMETHING?
NO...
NOTHING.
That damn Shimanuki...
ding
THANKS! ♡
Ohhh! Senpai's so hot!

Now then,
I should call Hirobayashi-senpai!
080-5432-xxxx
beep
beep
beep
I can forgive Shimanuki 'cause he got me Senpai's number
Doesn't he understand how vulnerable a girl's heart is when she's going through puberty?
Damn it!
wham
wham
wham
Smirk
But you know...
Eh?
WHOSE NUMBER DID YOU CALL?
SENPAI IT'S ME.
Hello?
AH SENPAI?
IT'S ME MINAKO
WAH!
AH HA HA HA HA! SENPAI!
ring
ring
Ah, Senpai? It's Minako
Studying your best for an exam?
ring
ring
I had fun today
ring
HELLO?
Simulating possible conversation

Idiot, idiot. Yeah!
Shimanuki!!
Impossible.
YOU KNOW, YOU NEVER ASKED ME "WHOSE CELL NUMBER IS THIS?"
I NEVER SAID IT WAS HIROBAYASHI-SENPAI'S.
SENPAI, YOU'RE A KNUCKLE HEAD.
AH. YOU KNOW, I'M NEAR YOUR HOUSE.
YOU'RE FREE, SO LET'S HANG OUT!
Shimanuki
Dooooom
I'm...
...going to kill you!
AH!
SENPA—

I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU DID THAT!
Is you crying for someone's first-degree murder?
I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU SET ME UP!
WHAM
HIYAH!
WAH! WAHHH!
PLEASE FORGIVE ME WITH THIS.
EH?!
THIS IS IT? AFTER PLAYING AROUND WITH A YOUNG LADY'S FEELINGS?
Well, I'll take it
SHE TRIED TO KILL ME
What's wrong with it?
...HEY, SENPAI.
HMM?
WHAT WERE YOU PLANNING ON SAYING TO HIROSAYAHI-SENPAI?
SHUT UP. IT'S NONE OF YOUR BUSINESS.
ANYWAY, I'M JUST CLINGY 'CAUSE I'M A SISSY.

YOU'RE NOT A SISSY.
YOU'RE JUST SERIOUS ABOUT HIM.
...Could he...
...be trying to comfort me?
UH
WHAT?!
SE...
SENPAI, DON'T CRY!
YOU'LL LOOK UGLY!
SENPA~
SWHA...

WAH HA HA HA HA! FUNNY!
LAUGHING TOO MUCH
COME ON YOU'RE BEING TOO SERIOUS
IDIOT
THAT WAS PAYBACK FOR TEASING ME...
...Eh?
What..? Why did he--?
Wasn't that a kiss...?!

Why did I obediently...

put my hand on his neck?

I really don't understand myself

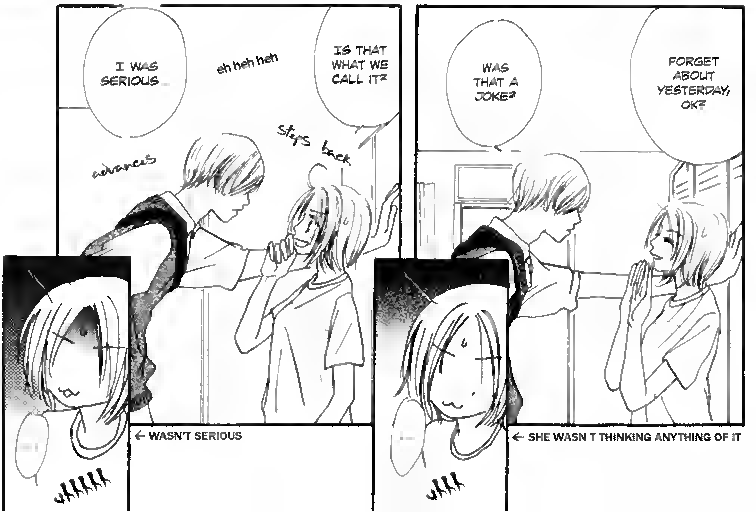
...Ahhh, I see.

Surely this has to be...

...a dream.
IT CAN'T BE A DREAM.
2ND YEAR P CLASS
Fine... Then that was just one evening's dream
When I see Shimanuki at his club
I'll act normal.
thump
SENPAI
WHA... WHAT?
KURAHASHI'S OFF TODAY HE'S GOT A DENTIST APPOINTMENT
I SEE
THANKS
OK..
Tsukahara, let's do some passing!
AH.
IT'S HALLEY'S COMET.
UWAH
NOW SHE'S AVOIDING THE TOPIC...

A big exam tomorrow?!
...it really was a dream...
Maybe...
Whatever.
Boy's Basketball
GOOD WORK
CHATTER
NO WAY (DEFINITELY NOT!
AH... TSUKAHARA! LET ME BORROW YOUR DDR!
CHATTER
MINAKO, I'M GOING TO THE BATHROOM!
LET ME BORROW IT!
CHATTER
SEE YA, SENPAI
SLAM
Today was no different than any other day
Well, guess I'll go change.
click-clack
click-clack
SENPAI
WAH!

...
HUH?
SENPAI, FOR STARTERS, GO OUT WITH ME
Can't you see I'm in the middle of changing?
WHA
WHAT IS IT?
UMM
UMM
UM SHIMANLIKE?
...he's trying to take responsibility for what happened yesterday..
Maybe...
What is he talking about..?


I WAS SERIOUS
eh heh heh
IS THAT WHAT WE CALL IT?
advances
steps back
← WASN'T SERIOUS
WAS THAT A JOKE?
FORGET ABOUT YESTERDAY, OK?
← SHE WASN T THINKING ANYTHING OF IT

It's not that I don't want to, but...
IS THAT A NO?
JUST KIDDING.
ch
Eh?
STAGGER
SO, SENPAI.
IT'S A YES, THEN.
Let's hurry up and go eat some ramen.
STILL CHANGING, NUKKI?
POP IN
AH, I'M COMING
SHE AM

ring
ring
ring
HELLO
AH SENPAI IT'S ME ♡
Don't just answer for me and leave before I get a chance to reply!
Wait a minute
Shimanuki...
...
Shimanuki...
I thought he was just a brat, but...
.. he surprises me.
I JUST THOUGHT WE SHOULD MEET UP
WHAT?
WHAT ?
NOTHING REALLY
I REALLY WANNA SEE YOU.
SENPAI.
MASSAGING HER THIGHS

WILL YOU MEET ME?
He knows...
how to tickle a girl's heart.
"...like Hirobayashi-senpai."
But I won't let him charm me.
I just came to say one thing.
"I still..."
HUG
IT'S YOU
!!

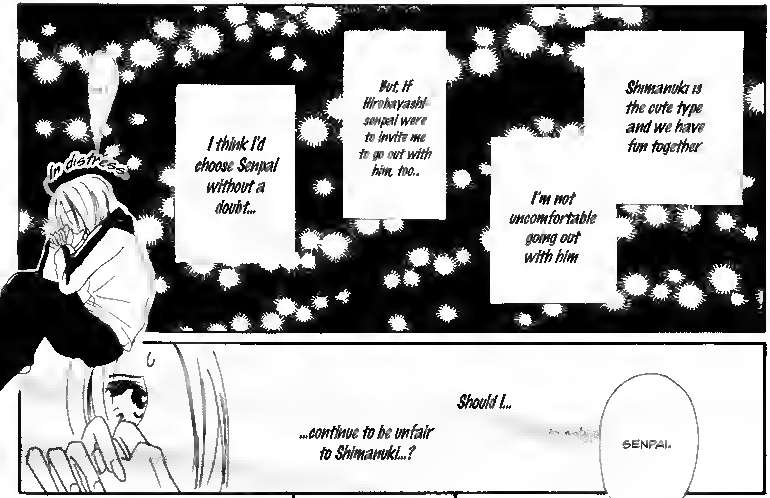
YOU'RE THE REAL THING
I'm in
I KNOW
I'M GLAD
Let go, stupid!
OF COURSE IT'S ME
WHAT'RE YOU SAYING?!
Hey!
WON'T LET GO
WHACK
WHACK
FLAP
FLAP
FLAP
FLAP
I feel that it's OK to be charmed by him.
I feel kind of happy
What can I do when he says that?
Yep. There s a clone. Better watch out.
Is there an impostor?
kick
kick
kick

MINAKO
...
MINAKO
MINAKO, I'M HERE.
COME QUICKLY
SENPAI
...
OK
I'M COMING...
STUMBLE
YIKES!
WHAT'S THIS?!
jungle
MINAKO-SENPAI IS MINE NOW ♡
WAIT! WHAT'RE YOU DOING ON YOUR .
MINAKO-SENPAI IS...
SHIMA-NUKI!!
Wait, shut up you!
TOO BAD
WHATTTS?!
AH! WAIT, SENPAI!
SENPAI ...!
Yes!

Why in hell did I have a dream like that?
Was it a premonition?!
DON'T WORRY
IT'S OK HIROBAYASHI-SENPAI ISN'T INTERESTED IN YOU.
I think he's forgotten about you already
WHAT SHOULD I DO WHEN I GET A CALL FROM SENPAI?!
IT'S NOT GONNA HAPPEN.
BUT...
YOU HAVE NUKKI!
NUKKI = SHIMANUKI
So, about Hiro, all right?
ARGH... I'M TELLING YOU TO GET REAL AND FORGET SENPAI.
WHY?
WHAT'S WRONG WITH SHIMANUKI?!
HE'S CUTE AND HE'S A FAST OPERATOR. IN SHORT, HE'S AWESOME
DON'T YOU LIKE HIM?
I DO!

I LIKE HIM
BUT I STILL LIKE HIROBAYASHI SENPAI, TOO
I THINK IT'S A BIT DIFFERENT FROM LOVE...
WHAT I'M TRYING TO SAY IS...
SIMPLIFY YOUR LIFE AND GO WITH SHIMANUKI. YOUR HAPPY ENDING LIES WITH HIM
GOT IT?
YOU'RE
YOU'RE HURTING ME KA-CHAN
SENPAI!
I FINALLY FOUND YOU
I'VE BEEN SEARCHING FOR YOU
Wah, It's him...
Sigh
WHAT...?
WHAT'S WRONG?
UMM
ARE YOU FREE TO-MORROW?
TOMOR-ROW?

DATE?!
WAIT, SHIMANUKI.
I'LL BE WAITING AT THE BRIDGE AT ONE.
YEAH...
THEN, IT'S A DATE.
LISTEN, SHIMANUKI.
1,000-YEN FINE FOR EVERY MINUTE THAT YOU'RE LATE.
Listen, listen ♡
SEE YA ♡
wave wave
Is it really OK to leave things the way they are?
I knew it.

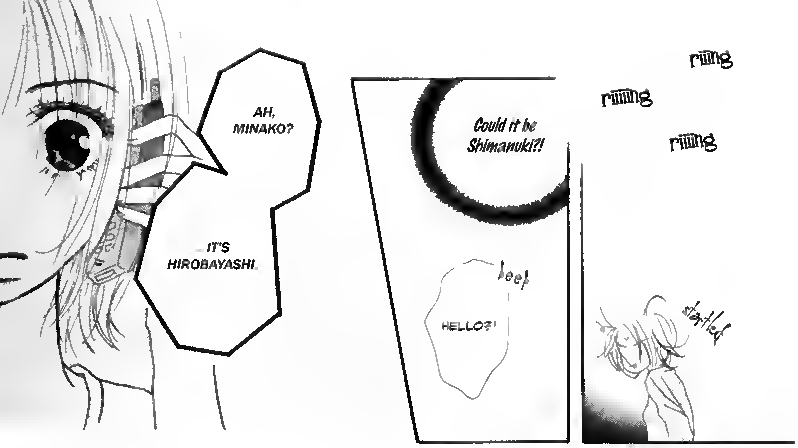

I think I'd choose Senpai without a doubt...
But, if Hirohayashi senpai were to invite me to go out with him, too..
Shimanuki is the cute type and we have fun together
I'm not uncomfortable going out with him
In distress
Should I...
...continue to be unfair to Shimanuki...?
SENPAI.

SMOOCH
?!
WAI~
SENPAI.
Shut up! I'm doing the best I can!
Kanahashi is willing to do it?!
HEY, HEY, SENPAI
HMM?

Shimanuki
WHY ARE YOU SPACED OUT?
EH? AH... EH HEH HEH HEH

Walk

I'll probably be happy, day after day, later on...
But, if his behavior could make me fall in love with him now.
I CAN'T BELIEVE HE DID THAT DURING CLUB TIME!
A STRANGE POSE
I LOVE YOU.
...too bad.
Well, that isn't...
...kiss her?
...k...
Nukki, did you just...
You seeing stars?
FIVE MINUTES BEFORE ONE
Yick
Yick
Yick
NO WAY
staggger
staggger
"1,000-yen fine for every minute that you're late."
AHH!



Senpai...?

Is it really Senpai?

I'm not dreaming, am I?

Senpai's voice...
WELL, CAN YOU LOOK FOR MY CD?
OK
SORRY FOR KEEPING YOU
YOU WEREN'T ABOUT TO GO OUT WERE YOU?
It's been a long time since I've heard it on the phone...
EH?
TEN MINUTES BEFORE TWO
HELLO? MINAKO?
I forgot about my date with Shimanuki!
...OH THAT'S TERRIBLE
I KNOW I'M GOING TO FAIL THE COLLEGE ENTRANCE EXAM
YOU WERE BUSY PLAYING BASKETBALL
THAT'S TRUE. I'M STILL SHOWING MY FACE AT THE CLUB AS OF NOW
AH HA HA HA... THAT'S TRUE

"Senpai, I love you"
"Senpai."
"Ah, Minako?"
"...It's Hirobayashi."
whee2e
whee2e
...I'M GONNA KILL HER
Oh, no... Senpai's voice...
is keeping me from hearing Shimanoki's.

I'M SORRY!
IN THE FORM OF A PRAYER
SORRY! SORRY! SORRY! SORRY!
I'M REALLY SORRY!!
I'M SORRY!
SMACK
!!
pissed off
But I can't tell him that.
I'll lie for the time being
Smile
Smile
AH...
YOU SEE, I WAS ABOUT TO LEAVE.
WHEN I RECEIVED A CALL FROM KAI-CHAN.
Talking on the phone with Senpai!
Uwah A huge smile
WHAT WERE YOU DOING?

OK
GET ON, THEN
POM
SHIMANUKI I'M SORRY
VRRROOM
I'M ACTUALLY PISSED TO THE POINT WHERE I WANNA THROW YOU DOWN INTO THE SEA.
AND YOU OWE ME 60,000 YEN FOR BEING SIXTY MINUTES LATE
I'LL FORGIVE YOU IF YOU TREAT ME TO AS MUCH YAKINIKU* AS I CAN EAT...
...WITHOUT ANY COMPLAINTS

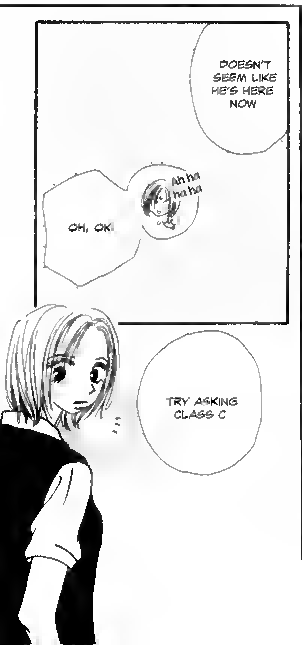
*Yakiniku are grilled meat dishes.

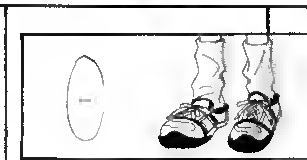
SORRY
YOU DON'T HAVE TO FORGIVE ME.
UP 'TIL NOW, I ACTUALLY WAS...
TALKING TO HIROBAYASHI-SENPAI ON THE PHONE.
SHIMANUKI.

...I LIKE HIROBAYASHI-SENPAI MORE.
Sorry, Shimanuki...
...I THINK...
HMM.
...
EH?
I SAID IT'S FINE
I...
THAT'S FINE
EVEN SO, I STILL LIKE YOU.

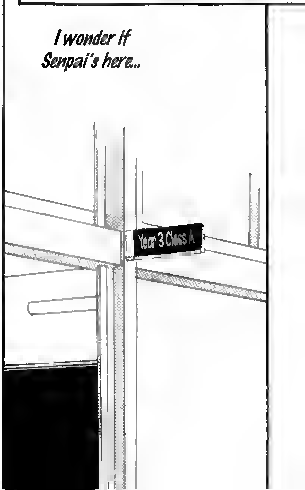
SEN-PAI
WAIT A MINUTE
SOR-RY...
DID I SAY SOMETHING WEIRD?
I'LL GO HOME
EH?!
SENPAI?
I'M REALLY (!!) SORRY(!!)
But I still like Hirobayashi-senpai, too.
I think my feelings for Shimanuki are a bit different from love...
...I like Shimanuki.
PLEASE JUST LET ME GO.

I'm so irresponsible. I didn't even think this through.





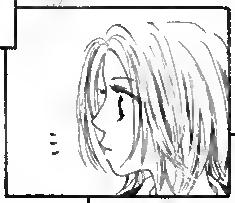
I wonder if Senpai's here...

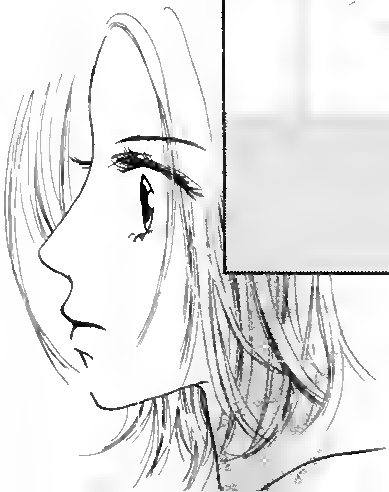


I...

...have a BAD feeling about this...

Year 3 CLASS C



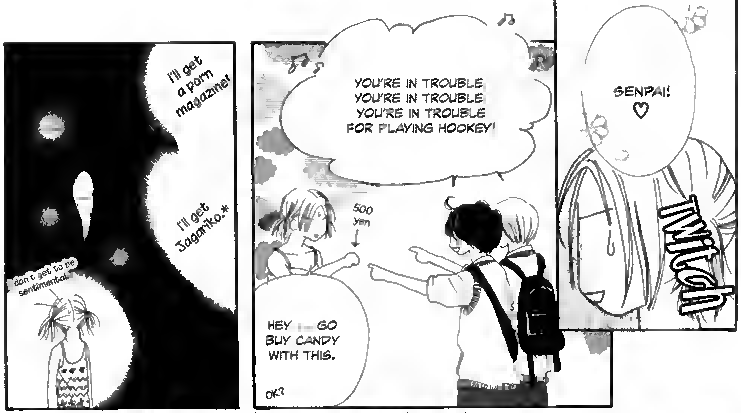


PLEASE TELL HIM .
I SAID THANK YOU
...in Senpai's heart anymore.
EXCUSE ME
COULD YOU GIVE THIS TO HIROAYASHI-SENPAI?
I'll get it cut soon.
Yours is long too.
It's summer. How about a mohawk?
Stupid.
Time is passing by...
...and there is no room for me...

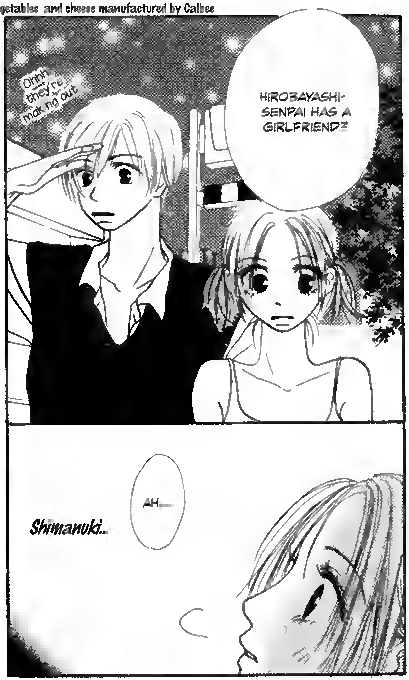
DEPRESSED
If only I had known about Senpai and that girl a little sooner...
If only a little sooner...
...things might be different now.
ring
But, after what I did, Shimazuki'd never call me.
ring
ring
AH..
HELLO?!

Kenny
It wasn't on purpose.
THAT'S OK...
I CAN'T BELIEVE I LEFT THE CD OUT OF THE ENVELOPE...
AH HA HA HA. THANKS.
OH, AND YOU SKIPPED CLUB TODAY
IT'S ME..
ABOUT THAT CD...
Senpai...?
CONVENIENCE
24
OPEN 24 HOURS
HEY.
THANKS FOR BRINGING IT TO ME.
EH...?
HOW DID YOU KNOW?
LOOK IN THERE.
SEE YA.
AH, YOUR CD...
Gah! It's Shimanuki!!
THE BASKETBALL CLUB.
Ah, it's our manager
She skipped class again.
I DIDN'T EXPECT THEM TO BE HERE...
He got mad.
OH.
I almost forgot.

Senpai...
BYE-BYE.
BYE-BYE.
I'll do my best.
Do your best, too, Senpai.



*Jagarike is a Japanese stick shaped snack made from potatoes, vegetables and cheese manufactured by Calbee



TREAT ME TO A MEAL
Ah, underwear.
...
YE
YEA?
SENPAI
NOW, WHAT DO I WANT TO EAT...
...when I was the one who rejected him?
Why am I being self-conscious about him..
SEE YA
He already hates me.
I WANT 60,000 YEN'S WORTH OF YAKINIKU.

WHAT'S WITH THAT FACE?
IT'S A JOKE.
pat
...
I'M GOING TO TELL THEM I'M LEAVING...
THUD
Huh...?
...
pfft
...
...SEMPAI?
WHAT'S WRONG?
...
WHY WOULD I BE MAD?
YOU
YOU AREN'T MAD?
...BECAUSE

SENPAI
You've got pig tails today. It's cute.
I'M THE ONE WHO FELL IN LOVE FIRST
"I like Hirobayashi-senpai more..."
SENPAI, YOU DON'T NEED TO WORRY ABOUT ANYTHING.
I can't give up on you.
I TEND TO BE CLINGY, TOO!

...OK?
SENPAI?
You're not...
You're not going to cry are you?
UH
WAH!
DON'T CRY!
SNOOG
Z!
Z!
SHIMANUKI...
IS IT OK...
...IF I FALL HOPELESSLY IN LOVE WITH YOU?

I was so touched...

...that the tears just came out.

《 END 》

OF COURSE.

After he said that,

he kissed me until I was breathless.

An Author's Rants

Trying to Give Commentary on My Work

Hyah!

WHY IS IT THIS PAINFUL?

I couldn't draw this story the way I wanted, so I got sad. I wish I could have made Komichi into a jerk. I was really pleased with the cover, though.

THAT'S NOT LOVE

I came up with the title beforehand, so I had trouble with the storyboard. The result is what we created after my editor and I struggled with all our efforts. The color is bad, too. It was the best I could do. But, I kind of like the way the girl was being indecisive.

This was bad

SWEETHEART

I hate the title. I wish I could have done something about the contents of it, too.

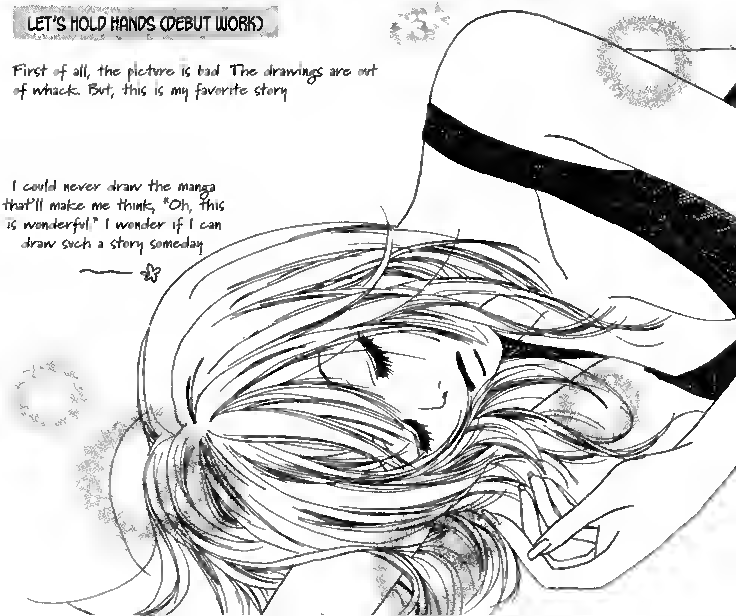
I JUST WANT YOU TO BE WITH ME

Ha ha ha ha ha! I laughed when I read this story for the first time in a while. How silly. I wonder what I was thinking when I drew it. But, I don't hate it.

LET'S HOLD HANDS (DEBUT WORK)

First of all, the picture is bad. The drawings are out of whack. But, this is my favorite story.

I could never draw the manga that'll make me think, "Oh, this is wonderful." I wonder if I can draw such a story someday.



THAT'S NOT LOVE

BY MIMORI AO

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SCANNED
Vanderguard

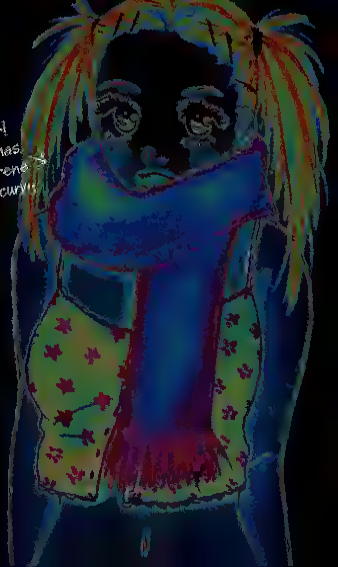
TRANSLATED
seiku and Karu

PROOFED
sophendo

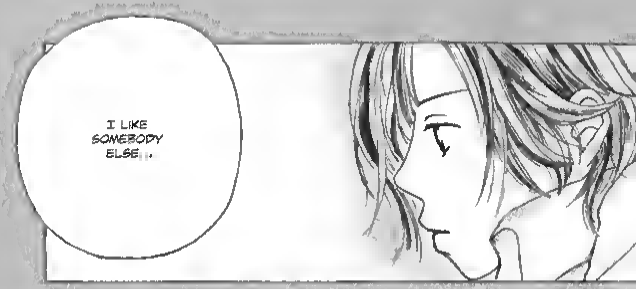
EDITED
Silverdeeds

TYPESET
Arleea

QUALITY CHECKED
sneaky_ninja, Vanderguard and Medea



Sweetheart


I LIKE SOMEBODY ELSE...

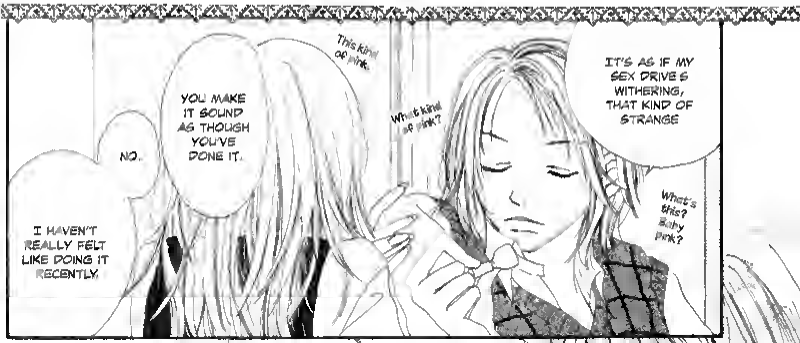
Dazed
The guy who said that, Yamada Tomohiro
was my boyfriend who, I, Kikuchi Kana, seventeen years old, dated during my first year in high school. I fell for him pretty easily.

I wouldn't talk about it for three months and acted as though nothing had happened.
I thought of it like that until the next day—
What? You gonna tell me the laws on how minors shouldn't drink?
I'm saying you'll die.
Seriously, stop it.
But I thought I was OK. I thought I could easily replace my feelings for him, too.

Hey...
Let me have a look at your report.
Wait a minute...
Wait a minute.
Let's walk home together for a change.
?
OK.
THANKS.
LET ME BORROW YOUR DICTIONARY
AH, YOU'RE HERE.
TOMO-HIRO...
Looks like the plan of "not talking about it for three months so that I can forget" went down the drain.
YEAH
SO WHAT?
What's with that weird face?
Forced smile.
WE'VE ALREADY BROKEN UP, YOU KNOW.
Practically three months have passed by...

Why the heck am I being a "friend" now, anyway?
YOU KNOW, I'M FEELING A STRANGE KIND OF LONELINESS
STRANGE? IN WHAT WAY?
HMM...
CUT YOUR HAIR WHEN YOU HAVEN'T MET UP WITH YOUR GIRLFRIEND FOR A LONG TIME.

Thirty percent of this friendship has been mixed with love, but...


IT'S AS IF MY SEX DRIVE'S WITHERING, THAT KIND OF STRANGE
What's this? Sultry pink?
This kind of pink.
What's kind of pink?
YOU MAKE IT SOUND AS THOUGH YOU'VE DONE IT.
NO.
I HAVEN'T REALLY FELT LIKE DOING IT RECENTLY.

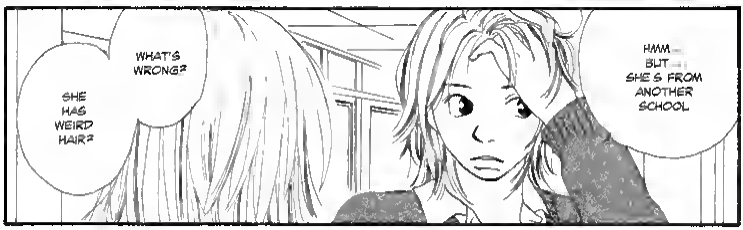
KANA-CHAN!
The two of us have broken up and yet we have this kind of relationship.
That's what I'm thinking right now.
It was your girlfriend's strategy to not wanna do it, right?

Club BLUE
CHRISTMAS
all night party
Decoy party 00 yen Free drink
How come the present comes with a price?!
YOU CAN PAY THE 2,000 YEN* LATER
*About $17
A CHRISTMAS PRESENT FOR YOU ♡
Cuss 4 t is the nly one left.
NO WAY.
I TOLD YOU I'M NOT SURE IF I'M GOING...
I'M NOT A MONSTER, Y'KNOW. JUST TELL ME IF YOU HAVE PLANS.
Hm?
ABOUT THAT...
EVERY YEAR, MY FAMILY GOES TO SING CAROLS...
OH, REJECTED!
UHHH...
I'M PUTTING MYSELF IN YOUR HANDS, THEN...
pluck
FINE. YOU'RE FREE ANYHOW, RIGHT?
I'm shy.
Ah ha ha! How are you going to behave, then?
PEOPLE I DON'T KNOW ARE GOING, RIGHT?
YOU'LL BE FINE.
I'LL HOLD YOUR HAND THE WHOLE TIME.

BUT, DON'T YOU HAVE A DATE?
It's Christmas.
I KNOW.
THAT'S FINE. BRING HER ALONG.

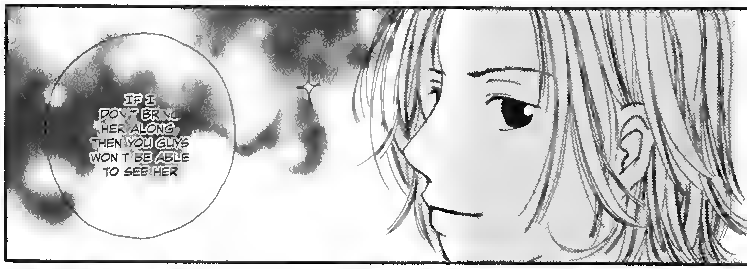
THEN, THAT MEANS...!!
It was against my will.
I WAS FORCED TO

DID YOU BUY THIS, TOO?
"TOO?"


WHAT'S WRONG?
SHE HAS WEIRD HAIR?
HMM... BUT SHE'S FROM ANOTHER SCHOOL

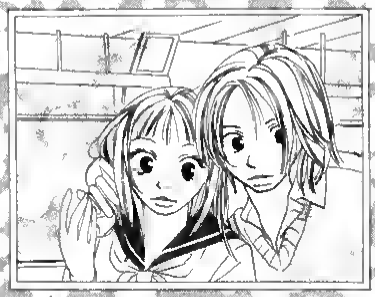
That's why I said she's from another school now, didn't I, sisters?
An eggplant
YOU GUYS SURE ARE FORCE-FUL...
BRING HER ♡

EH? WHAT? WHAT KIND OF HAIRDO?
Like an eggplant?
A HAIR-STYLE THAT WITHERS HIS SEX DRIVE?
Shocked
EHHH?! THAT'S, LIKE, AMAZING! I WANNA SEE! ♡


IF I DON'T BRING HER ALONG, THEN YOU GUYS WON'T BE ABLE TO SEE HER

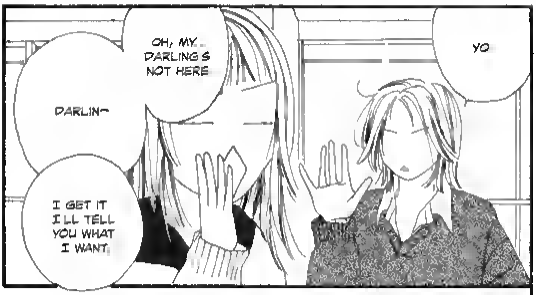
Syo
WON'T SHE BE BANNED FROM BEING ADMITTED?
Will there be one?
BUT BEFORE THAT EVEN IF YOU BRING THAT GIRL WITH THE WEIRD HAIRDO TO THE PARTY... NOW, HOW DO I PUT IT...
HUH? IS THAT SO?

I want to be friends with Tomohiro forever.
When we broke up, I suddenly became a stranger. It's impossible to forget him...
Come to think of it, those were really good times.
Oh, yeah? Being superior now, aren't we? Go ahead and do it. Come on, let's have it. Hm, Bro?
What's that? Wanna have a go at it, Freak?
Akiyama
WANNA BUY AN ENTRANCE PASS?
EHS!
Now there's a good kid.



We're friends now

I'm fine with just being near him



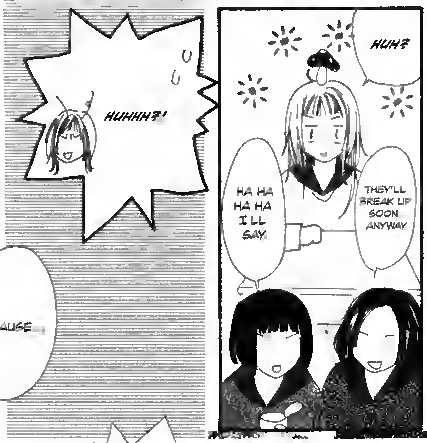
KANA~!

DARLING'S CALLING YOU~!

WHERE'S YOUR GIRLFRIEND?
I TOLD HER I WASN'T TAKING HER
THEN, WHAT'LL YOU DO? YOU WON'T SEE HER?
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT...
BUT IT'S CHRISTMAS
It's once a year!
IF YOU DON'T WANT TO, THEN IT'S FINE
EH?
It's not that I don't want to...
WHY ME?
EH?
IT'S NOTHING

He says it's "nothing.."

KANA



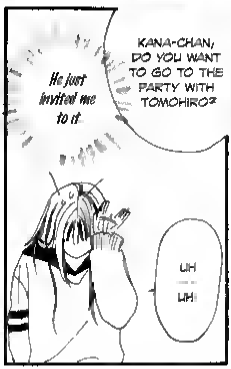
"EHHH?! YOU MADE UP WITH KANA-CHAN?!"
I SAID THAT AND THEN, HE SAID
chatter
babble
AND THEN, THAT GIRL-
What the hell...?
That was it right? Nothing more to it?
A demon... It's a demon.
STOMP
STOMP
I GUESS
Wonder if he went home already...
peek
Ah, bingo.
It's fine.
We invite others, too.
Let's go together.
BUT THERE ARE SOME GIRLS THERE...
Yeah.

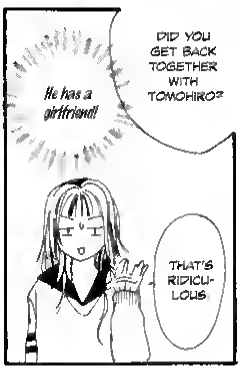
GOOD TIMING. TEACH ME ENGLISH.
I'll be in deep trouble next time
OHHH!
twitch
NO WAY! WHY SHOULD I DO SUCH A THING?
Why do you want me to teach you, anyway?
tug

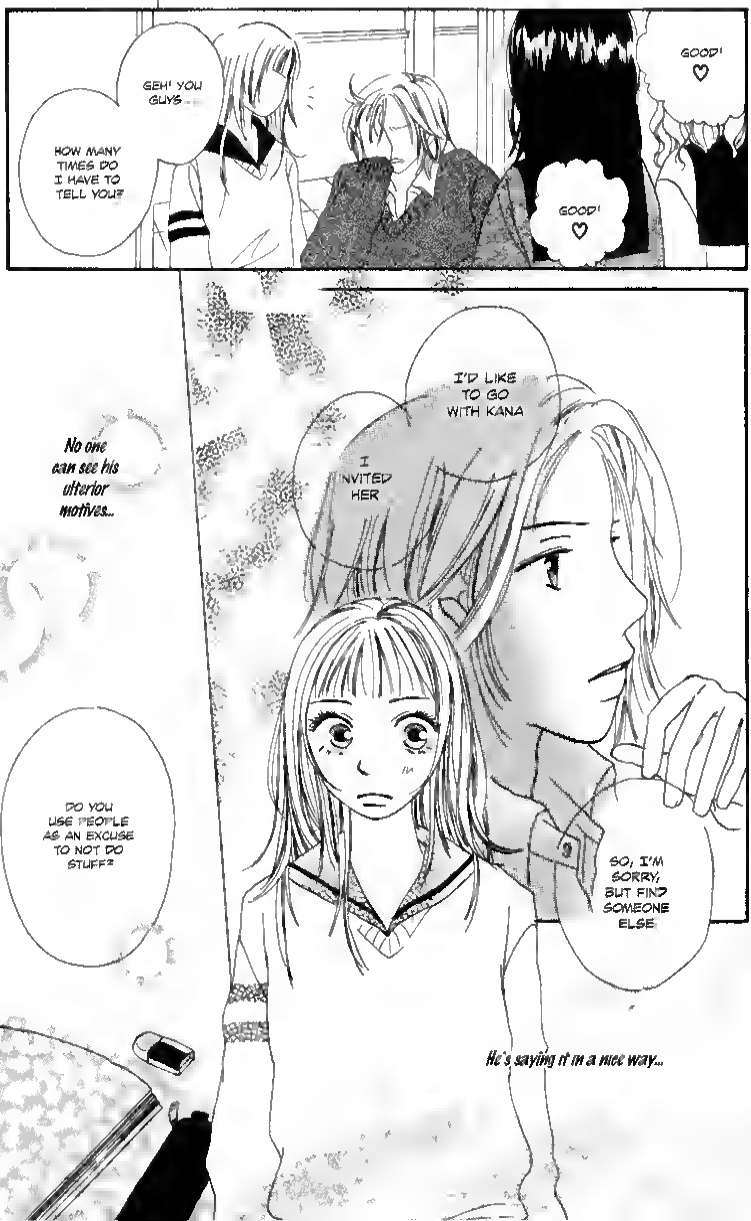
People might get the wrong idea...
I should come back later...
KANA.
WHAT'RE YOU DOING?

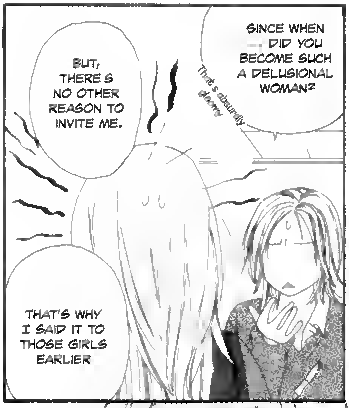
They found me...
HEY, KANA-CHAN
YOU GOT A MINUTE?
...WHAT FOR?

THEN, IS IT OK IF WE GO WITH TOMOHIRO?
Do whatever you want!
YEAH, GO, GO.

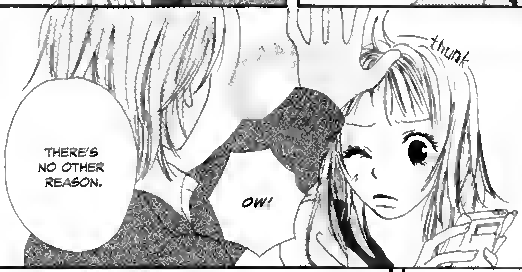

KANA-CHAN, DO YOU WANT TO GO TO THE PARTY WITH TOMOHIRO?
He just invited me to it
UH... UH


DID YOU GET BACK TOGETHER WITH TOMOHIRO?
He has a girlfriend!
THAT'S RIDICULOUS.

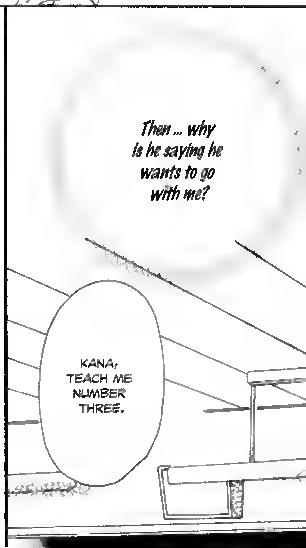

GEH! YOU GUYS...
HOW MANY TIMES DO I HAVE TO TELL YOU?
GOOD! ♡
GOOD! ♡
No one can see his ulterior motives...
I'D LIKE TO GO WITH KANA
I INVITED HER
DO YOU USE PEOPLE AS AN EXCUSE TO NOT DO STUFF?
SO, I'M SORRY, BUT FIND SOMEONE ELSE
He's saying it in a nice way...

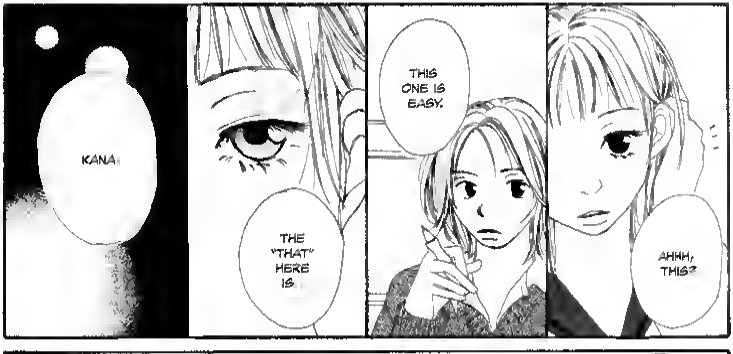

SINCE WHEN — DID YOU BECOME SUCH A DELUSIONAL WOMAN?
That's absurdly direct.
BUT, THERE'S NO OTHER REASON TO INVITE ME.
THAT'S WHY I SAID IT TO THOSE GIRLS EARLIER

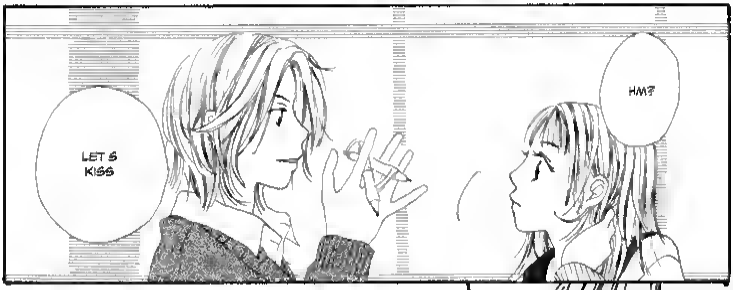
AN EXCUSE?
IT SURE LOOKS LIKE IT
EVEN IF YOU SAID IT THAT WAY, THERE'S NO REASON TO INVITE ME.


thunk
THERE'S NO OTHER REASON.
OW!
I WANT TO GO WITH YOU, THAT'S WHY I INVITED YOU.

EH?!
AH! SORRY WHICH ONE?
KANA?
You listening?
Impossible. It can't be that he... still likes me.


Then... why is he saying he wants to go with me?
KANA, TEACH ME NUMBER THREE.

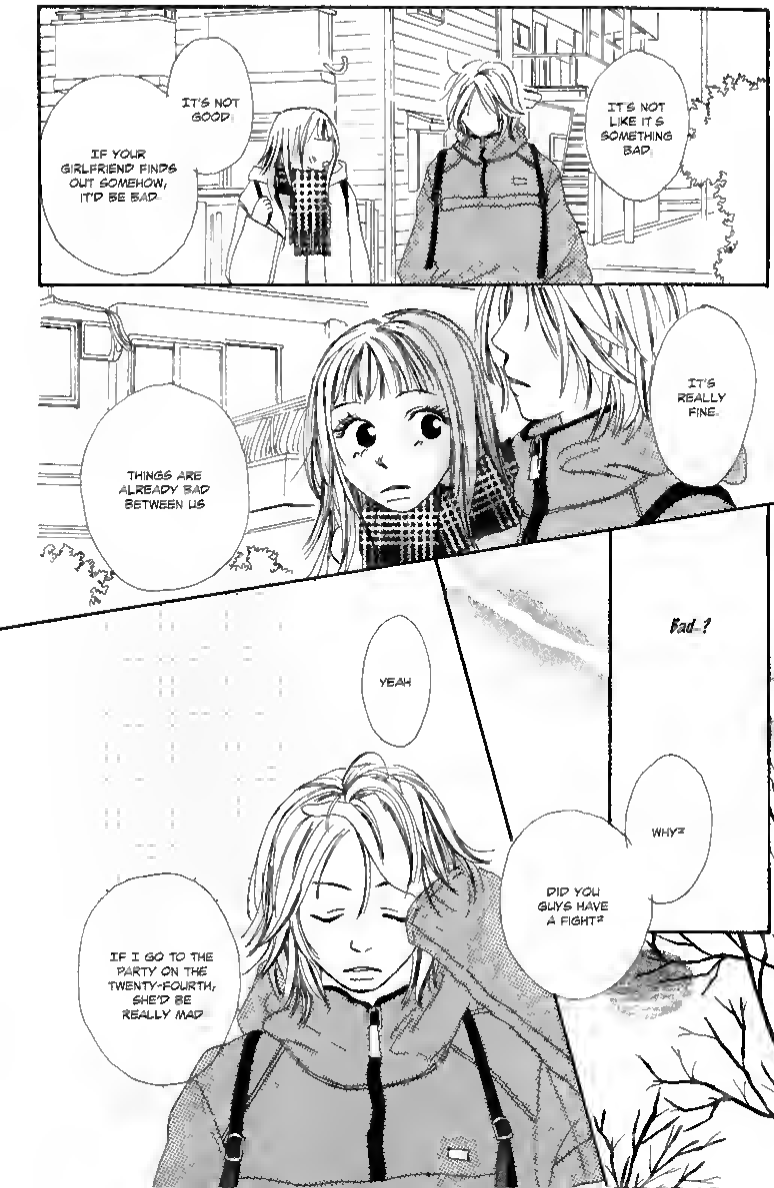

KANA
THE "THAT" HERE IS.
THIS ONE IS EASY.
AHHH, THIS?


LET'S KISS
HM?

THEN, IT'S OK. TURN THIS WAY.
I I DON'T REALLY CARE, BUT
What's he saying...?
WE HAVEN'T DONE THAT IN A WHILE.
HUH?

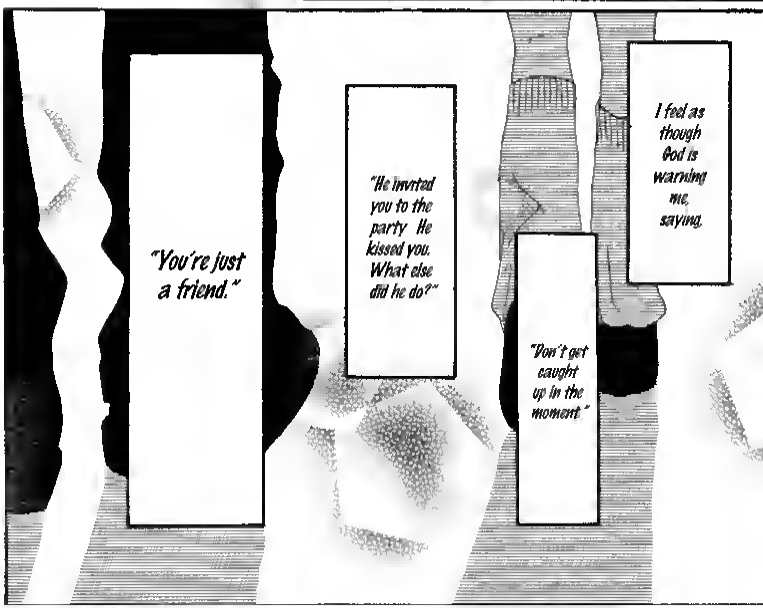
It's been a while...
...since I've kissed Tomohiro.
ding dong
ALL RIGHT
SUBMIT YOUR PAPERS STARTING FROM THE BACK.
ding dong
KANA-CHAN... YOUR EXAM?
That problem was sure strange, huh?
You done?
I barely studied anything yesterday.
TODAY'S WAS SPLENDIDLY EASY, THOUGH...
HERE.
Stressed
WHAT'RE YOU BLUSHING FOR?
HO HO HO
AH HA HA HA
WHA—
WHAT?!
—
—

HEY, SIS, HOW DID YOU DO ON YOUR EXAM?
WAH!
IT'S ALL YOUR FAULT I GOT THE WORST RESULTS OF THE CENTURY
Why the hell did Tomohiro act as though nothing happened, anyway?
BAP
HEY!
"THAT?"
THAT WAS BECAUSE YOU DID "THAT..."
And you laughed at me.
WHY IS IT MY FAULT?!
BECAUSE YOU DITCHED ME HALFWAY
WE KISSED
NOTHING, NOTHING
IT WAS NOTHING, REALLY
WHY THE HELL DID YOU SAY IT LIKE THAT?!
Why the hell did you say it?!
?!
I IMAGINED IT'D BE SOMETHING BIGGER
Let's go home
HOW BORING


IT'S NOT GOOD.
IF YOUR GIRLFRIEND FINDS OUT SOMEHOW, IT'D BE BAD.
IT'S NOT LIKE IT'S SOMETHING BAD.
IT'S REALLY FINE.
THINGS ARE ALREADY BAD BETWEEN US
Bad...?
YEAH
WHY?
DID YOU GUYS HAVE A FIGHT?
IF I GO TO THE PARTY ON THE TWENTY-FOURTH, SHE'D BE REALLY MAD

NO WAY.
I'm head-over
SO, DON'T GO TO THE PARTY
That's already a given.
WHY DO YOU WANT TO GO SO MUCH?
IT'S FINE. WE GET TO SPEND THE NIGHT TOGETHER BEING ALL LOVEY-DOVEY
"RIGHT?"
You're being inconsiderate.
RIGHT
IT'S NOT ABOUT GOING TO A PARTY WITH ME.
He makes it seem like he wants me more than his girlfriend
I FEEL BAD FOR YOUR GIRLFRIEND
That's...
IT'S OK
I JUST DO WHAT I WANT TO DO

At times like this...
...
HUMPH... AS LONG AS IT'S FINE, THEN
WE'RE MEETING IN THE MIDDLE OF A FALLOUT, ANYWAY
IT'S FINE.


"You're just a friend."
"He invited you to the party. He kissed you. What else did he do?"
"Don't get caught up in the moment."
I feel as though God is warning me, saying,

Now I understand why it sickens me.
rrrrrrng
rrrrrrng
Fe Fe Fe
"For the sake of the girl he's going out with."
"I like somebody else."
"You abandoned me."
hmm
HELLO?
KANA? IT'S MIMIKO
OHHH WHAT IS IT?
ARE YOU PERHAPS FREE?
eh hee hee
I'LL GO ALONE FOR A CHANGE.
TODAY'S DIFFERENT
I'M NOT HELPING IF IT'S ANYTHING TO DO WITH STEALING ANYTHING

LOOK LOOK IT'S SO CUTE ♡
I WANT IT, BUT IT'S EXPENSIVE
AH, HEY, ISN'T THIS REALLY CUTE, TOO?
IT REALLY IS
It's really cool.
Wearing a cap.
ARE YOU BUYING AGAIN?
IT'S JUST CLOTHES FOR THE PARTY, SO ANYTHING WILL DO
KANA, YOU SHOULD BUY SOME CLOTHES, TOO. PROPER ONES
What do you think of this?
No... It's got the most hideous design.
Let's go eat something tasty and warm.
YOU'RE NOT GOING THERE DRESSED IN A JERSEY
THAT'S RUDE.
BUT A JERSEY ISN'T...
...!!!

She's a beauty...
What's with the "withering sexual desire" story?! Tomohiro's a liar!!
Tomohiro and his girlfriend with the weird hairdo!!
← Hiding
The two of us are going to the party on the twenty-fourth!
I kissed that guy the other day!
Big Sis! You seem like a friendly sort, but do you know me?
I've become really hollow.
KANA
Not good...
SIGH
THANK YOU VERY MUCH!
KICK

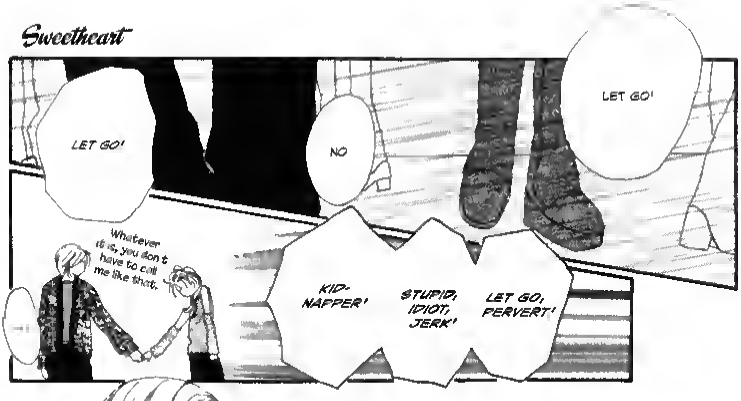
The person who suddenly screamed.
SNAP OUT OF IT.
Can we go home now?
Still shopping?
Damn it!
HEY, KANA.
DEFINITELY NOT GOOD!!
I'll kill him when I see him back.
BLUE FLOWER
I avoided extra lessons.
ALL RIGHT.
SUCH A HEROIC POSE FOR A SCORE LIKE THAT...?
I'll definitely catch myself a good guy!
EXTRA LESSONS FOR THOSE SCORING BELOW TWENTY PERCENT
COME TO THE STAFF ROOM AFTER SCHOOL
You're dismissed.
KANA, YOU SURE BECAME AN IDIOT.

THUMP
ALTHOUGH YOU'RE STILL BETTER THAN ME..
What's this?
THUMP
I DON'T CARE ABOUT THAT
THUMP
WHAT RE YOU GONNA DO ABOUT THE PARTY?
Why is my mind still filled with these thoughts?
WHERE DO WE MEET UP?
Why do I have these hateful feelings?
AT THE CONVENIENCE STORE IN FRONT OF THE TRAIN STATION
Why're you smiling?
TOMOHIRO.

LET'S NOT GO TOGETHER
HUH?
I WANT TO FIND A GOOD BOYFRIEND
I'M GOING TO DRESS SPLENDIDLY FOR THIS PARTY
IF I GO WITH YOU, TOMOHIRO THE OTHER GUYS MIGHT THINK I ALREADY HAVE A BOYFRIEND!
SO...
—!
HUMPH —
BEST OF LUCK, THEN!
Hey God. Please tell me.
I know we're friends. And yet I thought I was fine with that
But...
I can't seem to laugh about it anymore...

Is there any other way apart from letting go?
KANA
KANA! YOU MAKING SURE YOU'RE FOLLOWING US?
MIMI
tap
YOU ALONE?
WAIT, WHERE D YOU GO?!
SHOVE
SHOVE
BUMP
WAIT!
I can't get through.

Uwah...
He startled me...
YEAH
I'M LOST NOW I'LL LOOK FOR THEM.
WHERE ARE THEY?
I'M FREE, SO HANG OUT WITH ME
IT'S OK
I'LL LOOK FOR THEM ALONE
LET'S GO.



We've broken up. Idiot.

IF YOU DON'T LET ME GO NOW—

I DON'T UNDERSTAND.
I'LL ALWAYS HAVE THIS FEELING THAT I'M CONNECTED TO YOU.
I'm barely keeping my feelings in check...
HEH?
I SAID I'M NOT LETTING YOU GO
tug
TOMO...
BUMP
WAIT, TOMOHIRO.
?
WHERE ARE WE GOING?
Waiting

WHITE
WHY'D YOU SUDDENLY STOP...
OW
His girlfriend's here...?!
HUMPH.

FOR YOU TO GO AS FAR AS THIS JUST TO BREAK UP!
IS IT NORMAL TO BRING HER ALONG?
CHRISTMAS 1998
FINE...
Eh?
I UNDERSTAND...
ATSUKO, I'M SORRY
What just happened...?
SMACK!
Eek!

I'M SORRY FOR BEING PERSISTENT...
THEN, I MADE A MISTAKE, TOO
OWW
I JUST FELT LIKE HITTING YOU
Hey... did she just hit him?
BYE-BYE
...why didn't he let go of my hand?
Even at a time like this...
I HEARD SHE LIKED YOU A LOT
YEAH
I'D BOAST IF I HAD THAT KIND OF GIRL
YEAH
SHE HAS A GOOD PERSONALITY
YOUR GIRLFRIEND'S PRETTY
YEAH
YEAH...
YOU KNOW—
Why'd he bring me here?

I SAID I'M NOT LETTING GO OF YOU...
AREN'T YOU GOING TO EXPLAIN WHAT HAPPENED, EVEN JUST A LITTLE?
Do you even understand what I'm saying?
TUG
AH, IS THAT SO?
THEN, I'VE CAUSED YOU TROUBLE...
bump
WHY?
EVEN SO...

I BEGAN TO HATE IT
LEAVING YOU ASIDE AND ALL...
He's such a selfish person...
And yet I still became his girlfriend
I'VE BEEN THINKING ALL ALONG THAT I'VE BEEN SUCH AN IDIOT...
I CAN'T BE PATIENT ANYMORE
But, oh, well...

He didn't let go of me the whole time.
DAMN IT
THIS IS FINALLY MY CHANCE TO MAKE AMENDS AND
Because of these warm hands...
...I'll forgive him.
COME BACK AND TAKE FULL RESPONSIBILITY IDIOT
OK.
《 fin 》

Brought to you by Condensation and Tsukiyo

THAT'S NOT LOVE

Story 4 "I Just Want You to Be With Me"

BY MIMORI AO

SCANNER
Vandersguard

TRANSLATOR
^_^Tanpopo

PROOFER
sophendo

EOITOR
sneaky_ninja

QUALITY CHECKERS
sneaky_ninja & Vandersguard

Arrrr! She has gangrene ~) and scurvy

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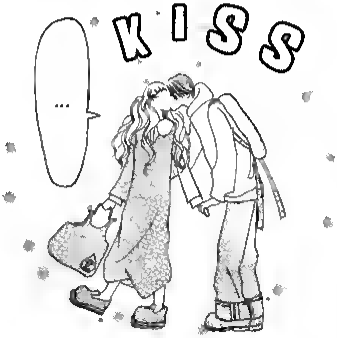
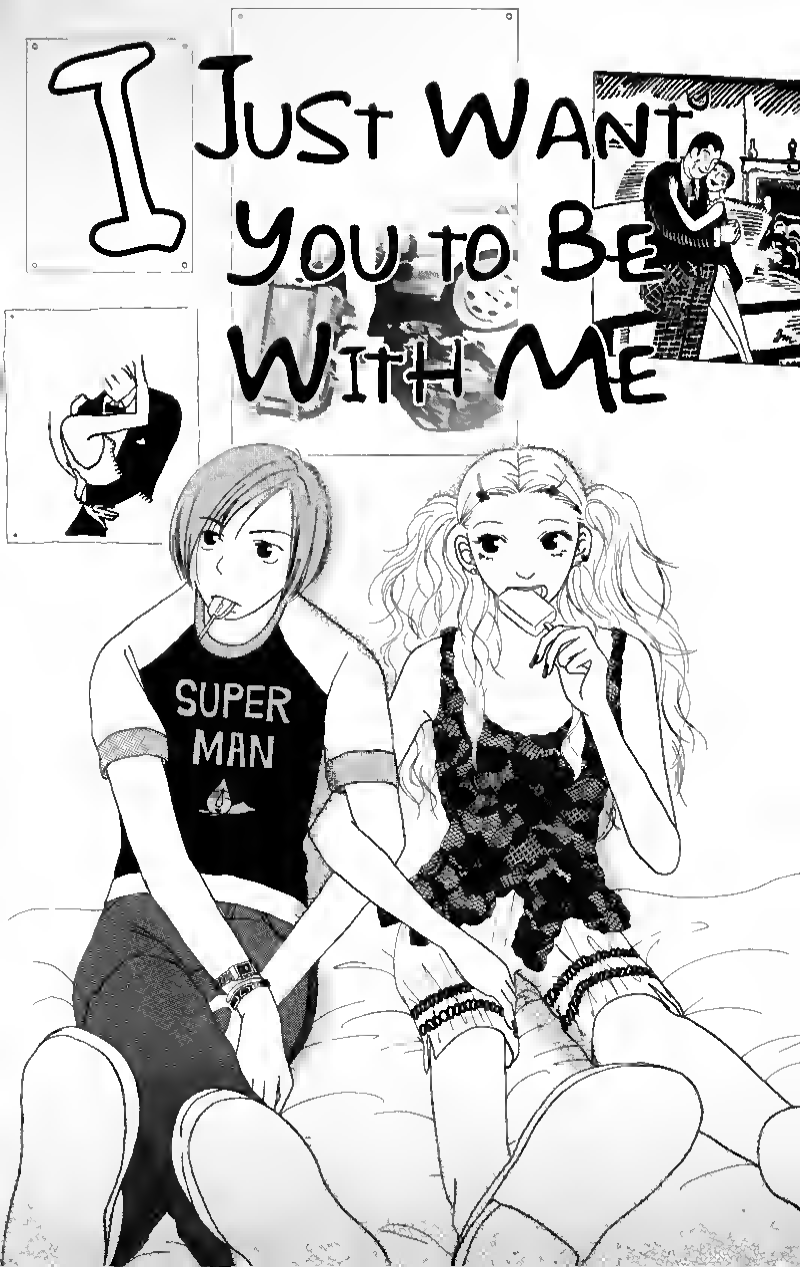
A B e ' S
APARTMENT
CLEANERS
BUT I HADN'T REALIZED THAT BEING A WAITRESS COULD BE SO HARD
YEAH, thanks to you
YEAH, I KNOW.. Some customers are rude
LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE GETTING USED TO YOUR JOB.

MAMI-CHAN?
...
OH, I'M GOING THIS WAY, SO I'LL SEE YOU.
OH, OK.


KISS
...


I JUST WANT YOU TO BE WITH ME
SUPER MAN

I'm gonna tell Ichio-kun...
GO AHEAD, IF YOU WANT TO.
Oh, no!
That's a big no-no!
I'M JUST KIDDING I WON'T TELL HIM.
AUGH!
WHAT AM I GONNA DO?
IT'S FINE HE WON'T FIND OUT.
IT'S NOT THAT...
What a nice guy.
Mami-chan!
THE GUY AT WORK
WE'VE BEEN TOGETHER FOR THREE YEARS NOW, BUT IT'S GETTING KIND OF BORING.
AND THE GUY AT WORK IS CUTE I KIND OF LIKE HIM.
SO I WAS REALLY EXCITED WHEN HE KISSED ME...
...
I JUST DON'T KNOW IF I REALLY LOVE HIM OR NOT.

DING DING
DONG
BUT THEN AGAIN, I STILL LOVE ICHIO.
SO, WHAT DO YOU THINK I SHOULD DO?
I DUNNO
BYE-BYE!
LET'S GO HOME
2 - 5
SIGH
I KNOW THAT VOICE
MAMI!
*PUFFY OR PUFFY AMIYUMI, ARE FAMOUS JAPANESE SINGERS WHO HAVE LONG, WAVY HAIR.
CLANG
OH, SHE FINALLY RE-ACTED.
YEAH, YOU, THE WANNA-BE PUFFY.* YOU'VE GOT THEIR HAIR-STYLE, BUT YOUR FACE IS TOTALLY DIFFERENT!
HEY, MAMI-PIE! MAMI-POO! MAMI-PIG!
I'll pretend I didn't hear him...
BAT
STARTLED
WHAT'S THE MATTER?
HUH ...?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
Nice shot!
Ahhh!
Oh no!
...
Augh... I dunno what to do.

GENTLY
?!
OH?
Are you feeling depressed?
ba-dump
ba-dump
YUP. DEFINITELY WEIRD.
YOUR FACE LOOKS WEIRD.
More than it usually does, anyway.
Hey!
HUH?
YOU SHOULD GO HOME.
WHAT?!
NO! I REALLY WANT TO GO BUY A CD TODAY!
STOP BEING ANNOY-ING.
I'M ANNOY-ING?!
YOU TEND TO GET FEVERS A LOT, AND WHEN YOU DO, I'LL HAVE TO GO TO YOUR PLACE. IT'S ANNOYING. SO GO HOME AND GET SOME REST.
But it's not a fever.
NO EXCUSES.
...

FEELINGS OF GUILT
CHEATING
...
I'M NOT SICK ...
PLAYING BY HERSELF
THAT
THAT
YEAH! IT WAS JUST A COLD!
Lord, I'm really sorry about that
I won't ever do that again.
I WAS JUST SICK!
That's gotta be it!
BUT I'VE FULLY RE-COVERED, SO I'M OK!
OPEN
Italian Restaurant

At a restaurant, they say "Morning" even if it's evening.
I'm sorry, but how else should I act toward you?
DEJECTED
HEY, MAMI-CHAN...
I'M BUSY
TURN
I WON'T LISTEN TO HIM
AH, MAMI-CHAN. 'MORNING
TURN
Oops. She took the wrong tray
BLUNT
HEY, YOU.
THANK YOU FOR WAITING, TIRAMISU.*
SPACED OUT
I NEED TO HAVE A TALK WITH HIM LATER.
BEING CALLED SOMEONE'S "TIRAMISU" IS LIKE BEING USED BECAUSE TIRAMISU IS SOMETHING THAT IS EATEN HALF-WAY ONLY FOR THE REST TO GO TO WASTE
CLINK
AH...
I'M SORRY ABOUT THAT. I'LL BRING YOU A NEW ONE.
AUGH! THIS IS WHY I DON'T LIKE OLDER WOMEN
Yes?
AHH...
CAN I HAVE ANO-T HER ONE?
YES?
THE CORNER'S MISSING.
HUH ...? That's it?!
A LITTLE COCOA POWDER IS MISSING
WHAT'S WITH THAT ATTI-TUDE? I WANT TO SEE THE MANAGER!
WHAT THE ...
PALE
YOU DON'T HAVE TO INVOLVE THE MAN-AGER!
HEY...
I want to help her out
Eww girl
She got in trouble.
Oh, no

WE'RE TERRIBLY SORRY. I'LL MAKE SURE TO SPEAK WITH HER ABOUT THIS LATER..
PLEASE FORGIVE US THIS TIME.
AS AN APOLOGY, YOUR COFFEE AND CAKE ARE ON US.
OH? WHY, THANK YOU.
...
I CAN'T BELIEVE I IGNORED HIM EARLIER
THE OLDER WOMAN
It's OK You're cute
I'm really sorry about that
...
AH, NO PROBLEM.
HMM?
Ha ha!
IT'S ME WHO NEEDS TO APOLOGIZE.
I'M SO SORRY I GAVE YOU TROUBLE TODAY...
?
Heh Yeah I know, Kazumi-kun.
I wonder if people even notice us Masami-kun
HEY, THANKS FOR HELPING ME OUT

...
OH, DEAR LORD.
PLEASE DON'T MAKE ME SICK AGAIN...
?!
I KISSED YOU EVEN THOUGH YOU ALREADY HAVE A BOYFRIEND.
I'm sorry
AH! THAT...
GAME
Let's go to an arcade
Hey!
HA HA HA ... IT'S ALL RIGHT.
LIAR
I WASN'T TRYING TO MAKE YOU BREAK UP WITH YOUR BOYFRIEND OR ANY-THING
I JUST LIKE YOU. THAT'S ALL.
Well, see you later
Well we are side characters this time, Masaru-kun
They ignored us, Kazumi-kun
...
MAMI-CHAN!

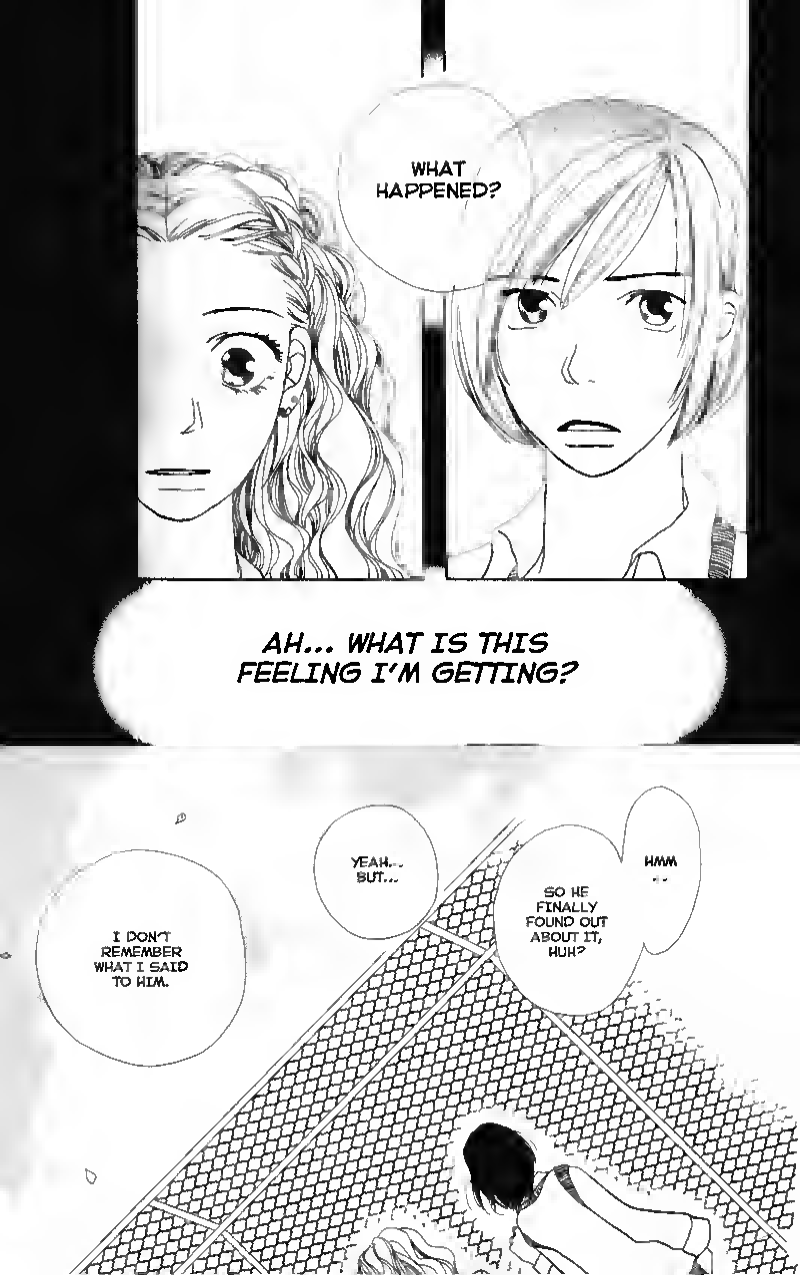
I WASN'T SLEEPING.
YES, YOU WERE.
I ... WAS JUST SPACED OUT.
DON'T SPACE OUT, THEN.
...
HOW DARE YOU FALL ASLEEP WHEN YOU'RE AT MY PLACE?
Got it?
BESIDES, IT'S MORNING.
Mmbbs
OUCH!
...
WHAT?
YOUR HAIR MAKES YOU LOOK LIKE MEDUSA.
It's not like Puffy's at all...
YOU!
...
IS IT REALLY OK TO HAVE SUCH THIN HAIR? I MEAN, YOU'RE ONLY 17. I CAN GO WITH YOU TO GET THAT CHECKED OUT.
THEN, YOU MUST BE LIKE A .. RIGHT?
A holiday!
You needed some hair tonic!
Ah ha ha, how embarrassing
He's bald!
*A KAPPA IS A JAPANESE FROG CHARACTER
I'M GONNA KILL YOU!
Who cares if I get arrested!
HEY, THAT WAS WHAT I WAS GOING TO SAY!

SHUT UP! SHUT UP! SHUT UP! SHUT UP! LEAVE ME ALONE, YOU BALDY!
Ahhoo
WELL, YOU'VE BEEN ACTING WEIRD LATELY. YOU IGNORED ME AT SCHOOL, AND NOW YOU'RE SPACING OUT!
I HAVEN'T BEEN ACTING WEIRD!
Smack
Smack
AUGH!
YES, YOU HAVE! REALLY WEIRD!
He's really gonna kill me
...
Are we...
...
HIS FACE IS SO TERRIFYING THAT YOU'RE BETTER OFF NOT SEEING IT
I SEE ...
I WENT HOME WITHOUT SAYING ANYTHING ELSE.
AND ...?
...really in love with each other?
AUGH ... I HATE THIS.

JEEZ... IF YOU HATE HIM SO MUCH, WHY DON'T YOU BREAK UP WITH HIM?
NO, THAT'S NOT IT!
I HATE, HATE, HATE, HATE THIS!
2-3
ICHIO,
SHE'S HERE.
THEN, YOU SHOULD JUST APOLOGIZE TO HIM.
I HATE MYSELF!
...
...
...
TODAY,
CAN WE...
GO HOME TOGETHER?
NO.
HURRY UP AND SAY IT ALREADY.
SCRATCH
SCRATCH
Looks like he's still angry...
UM... OK.

I CAN GO TO THE RESTAURANT WHERE YOU WORK AND HAVE DINNER THERE.
CRAP!
THAT'S ALL, THEN.
Later
DINNER.
I CAN HAVE DINNER WITH YOU.
HUH?!
POUND
...
WHAT?
AND, UH ... THEIR CHAIRS
I'LL DECIDE THAT ON MY OWN.
After I've tasted their food
AH, BUT ... THE RESTAURANT'S NOT THAT GOOD.
...
SO, WHAT SHOULD I GET?
Why did it end up like this?!
How about a cup of tea?
No, thanks
HEY ...
I WANT TO EAT SUSHI.
SUSHI?
...

...
WHOOSH
Just smile.
COLD
...
AUGH
YEAH! MY TREAT. HOW ABOUT SOME ROUND SUSHI? ♡
BULLSEYE
WHAT HAPPENED AT WORK?
STRAIGHT FORWARD
NOTHING ...
Eh heh heh
NOTHING HAPPENED!
LIAR.
LIAR.
I'LL GIVE YOU ONE LAST CHANCE.
IF YOU LIE AGAIN, I'M GONNA KILL YOU.
I SAID, NOTHING HAPPENED!
LIAR.
I MEAN IT!

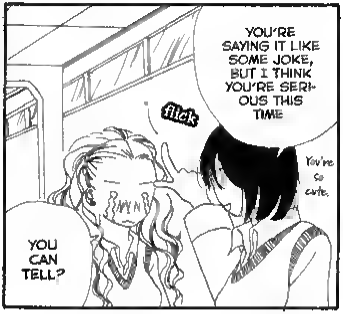

WHAT HAPPENED?
AH... WHAT IS THIS FEELING I'M GETTING?
HMM...
SO HE FINALLY FOUND OUT ABOUT IT, HUH?
YEAH... BUT...
I DON'T REMEMBER WHAT I SAID TO HIM.

"SO, YOU DON'T KNOW IF YOU SHOULD EI-THER CHOOSE ME OR HIM?"
I WAS ...
SO NERVOUS ...
"DON'T UNDERESTIMATE ME."
Oh, jeez.
AUGH, WHAT SHOULD I DO?
I MUST BE NUTS TO THINK THAT HE LOOKED COOL WHEN HE WAS VERY MAD AT ME.
I can see your point-ses
MAMI?
YOU ONLY NOTICE WHAT'S IMPORTANT TO YOU WHEN YOU'VE LOST IT.
Mami's lesson for today
I was dumped.

It's been a week since then. Not only will he not talk to me, he also doesn't even look at me.
I really miss him
Now that I've lost him,
Ah,
I feel so miserable.
GIRLS BATHROOM
BY THE WAY,
WHAT HAPPENED TO WORK, MAMI?
BRUSH
BRUSH
BRUSH
BRUSH
BRUSH
?!
AUGH!
YOU FOR-GOT ABOUT IT...
I can tell by your reaction

I totally forgot about work.
At least I'm happily retired
HONK
MAMI-CHAN.
← MAMI
YOU'RE FIRED.
YAMAGISHI MANAGER
Remember him?
He was the one who kissed me ...
a long time ago
YEAH THANKS FOR EVERY-THING
Yay!
Yay?
PANT PANT
PEACE
IS IT TRUE YOU GOT FIRED?
...
Bye!
Take care!
I don't know what's she's doing, but it looks like I got dumped
Ah, I'm really,
really too late...
?
...
HUH?
PEACE
I FULLY RECOVERED FROM MY COLD.

BUT, IT HAS TO BE ICHIO!


YOU'RE SAYING IT LIKE SOME JOKE, BUT I THINK YOU'RE SERIOUS THIS TIME
flick
You're so cute.
YOU CAN TELL?

"MAMI-PIE! MAMI-PIG!"
"YOUR HAIR MAKES YOU LOOK LIKE MEDUSA."
"WHAT HAPPENED?"

"MAMI."

HMM?
I CAN'T TAKE IT ANYMORE.
WEAK
HER MEMORIES OF HIM MAKE HIM SEEM NICER

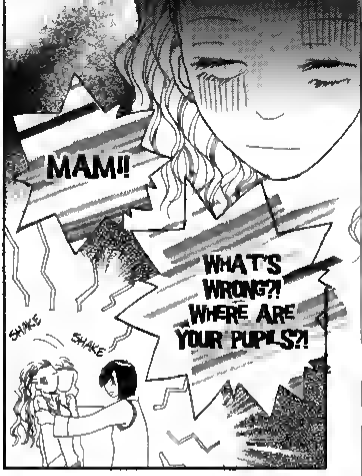
I REALLY WANT TO TELL HIM THAT I LOVE HIM.
2-3
HUH?
Who said that?
SOME-ONE WANTS YOU.
ICHIO-KUN.
120 ✗ SUSPICIONS.
Do you need to use the toilet or something?!
MAM!?!
...
IT'S ICHIO...
WHAT?
SHE'S SO HAPPY THAT SHE'S SPEECHLESS
...
DON'T CALL ME OUT IF YOU DON'T NEED ME.
clang
AH...

I...
AH...
ABOUT THAT THING I SAID BEFORE ..
...
WHAT?

AH, MAMI ...
Hey, you're back.
I GOT SOME BREAD FOR YOU. WAS THE BATHROOM CROWDED?

HUH?
...
...I'M SORRY I CAME.
AHL
...
WOBBLE
WOBBLE

HUH?
IT'S OVER..
I, MAMI, AGE 17, WENT TO CONFESS MY LOVE WITH ALL MY HEART.
THE RESULT I GOT WAS


MAM!!
WHAT'S WRONG?! WHERE ARE YOUR PUPILS?!
SHAKE
SHAKE

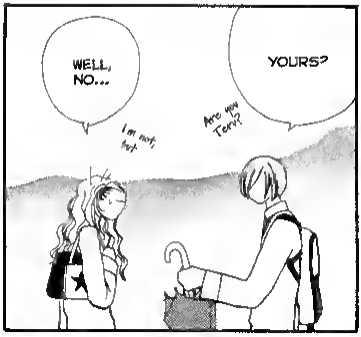
I can't see it. It's too dark.
WHAT'S THAT?
I thought Ichio might have forgiven me with a smile.
It hit me. . .
HUH?
THIS.

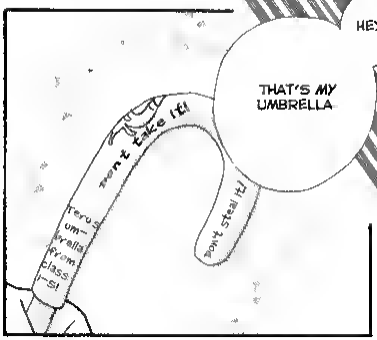
ding
dong
AT 4 PM TODAY THE LIBRARY COMMITTEE WILL HAVE ITS MEETING
WILL ALL MEMBERS PLEASE COME TO CLASSROOM 3-1. I REPEAT
What was I thinking ?
Augh. I'm so stupid

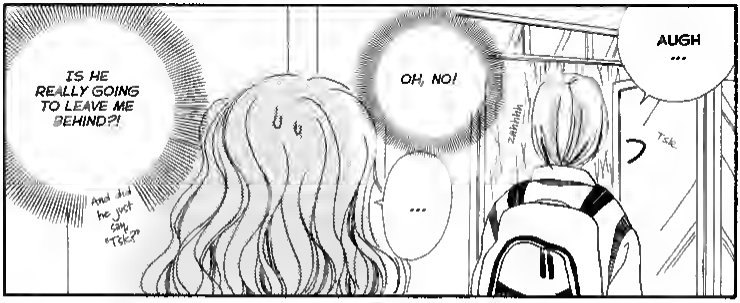
IT'LL BE FINE. IT WON'T RAIN ON YOU.
You'll be OK
OH, BUT ...
She's still carrying it
...
I can't stop crying...
HEY, MAMI YOU'RE A MEMBER, RIGHT?
POOR GIRL. IT'LL RAIN LATER TODAY...
3 - 1
Library Committee
Here at 4 PM!
But, I should keep looking forward for now.
SLAM
...
...
...
WHY DOES HE HAVE TO BE HERE?!
LIFELESS DOLL
...
And you know what else!?

I DIDN'T THINK ABOUT THAT WHEN WE BROKE UP!
RECALLING THE GOOD OLD DAYS
HEY!
COME ON, JOIN THE COMMITTEE!
WE CAN GO HOME TOGETHER IF WE BOTH JOIN!
gasp
Augh...
ZAHHHH
...
THIEF.
I'LL JUST BORROW THIS
...I FEEL LIKE I'M DYING.
ZAHHH
Are we picking a fight with my Mother Nature?
NO LONGER MAKING SENSE...

zahhh
ba-bump
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
W-
ba-bump
I'M GOING HOME.
IT'S A FELONY, YOU KNOW.
Oh, well
step
step
step
LATER.
CLACK
...
...
zahhhh



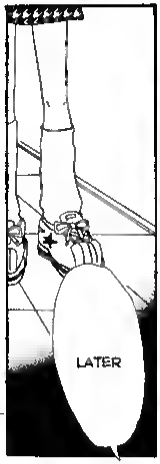


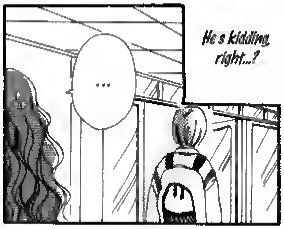


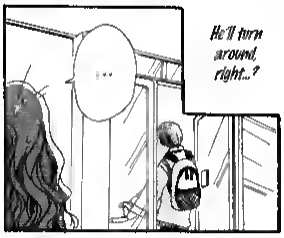
Mami's lesson for the soul:

IT'S ALWAYS TOO LATE TO REPAIR REGRETS.

THE END







Everyone, be careful now!

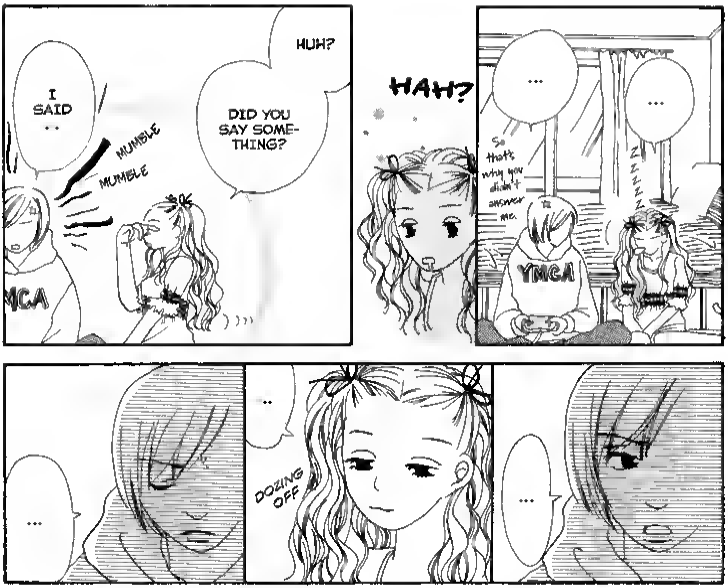
Bye-bye!

THE END

Zahh
Will I be able to say that to him with a smile someday?
SPLASH
SPLASH
"Later."
BE WITH HIM FOREVER...
I REALLY WANTED TO...
SPLASH
HEY.

WHAT'S UP WITH YOU?
And that face too
HEY...
LET'S GO.
I HAVE TO SAY SOMETHING
ANYTHING!
EH?

...
ICHIO...
SO WHY ARE YOU COMING TO MY PLACE EVERY DAY NOW?
ALL I DID WAS LET YOU SHARE THE UMBRELLA.
I DIDN'T SAY ANYTHING ABOUT FORGIVING YOU.
WHAT I MEAN TO SAY IS. .
Leave me alone!
How about a movie?
Peace Park
purrr


I SAID ..
MUMBLE MUMBLE
DID YOU SAY SOMETHING?
HUH?
HAH?
...
...
So that's why you didn't answer me.
YMCA
YMCA
...
DOZING OFF
...

...
PAT
CLICK CLICK
OH, WELL.

《THE END》

THAT'S NOT LOVE

BY MIMORI AO

PRESENTED BY:

SCANNED
Vanderguard

TRANSLATED
seku

TRANSLATION HELP
terracannon876 and stripey

PROOFED
sophendo

ADAPTED
Vanderguard

EDITED
Silver and Saga

TYPESET
Tango

QUALITY CHECKED
sneaky_ninja, Vanderguard and Saga

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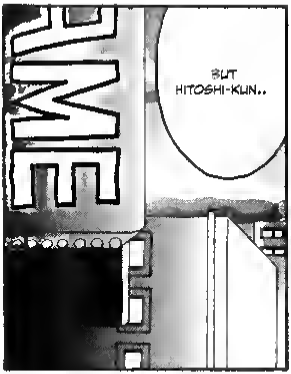
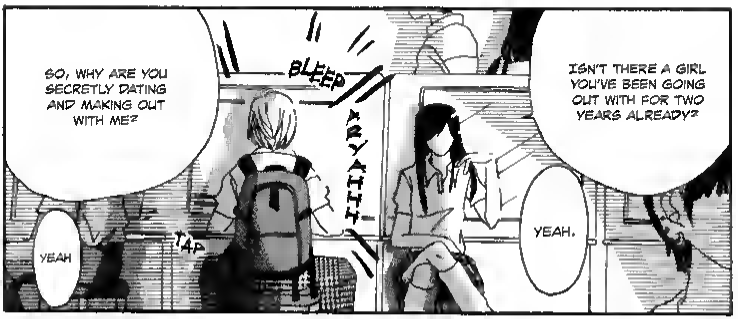
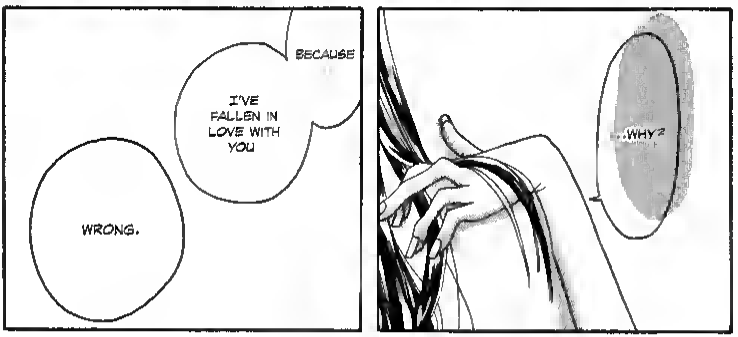
Joined Hands

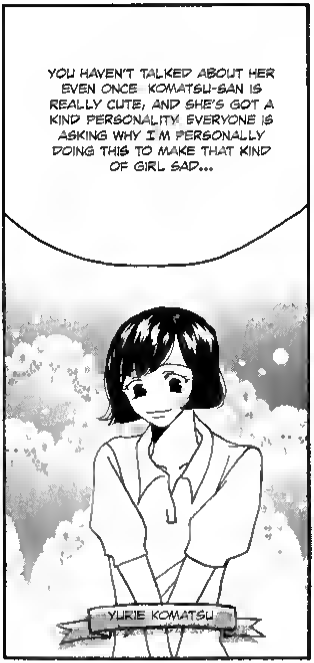

BUT HITOSHI-KUN..

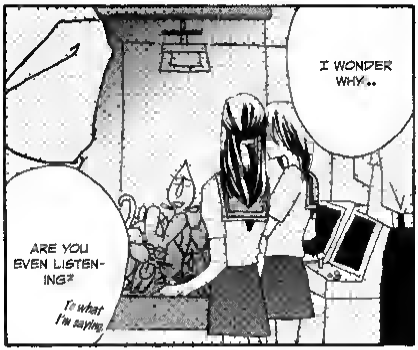

SO, WHY ARE YOU SECRETLY DATING AND MAKING OUT WITH ME?
BLEEP
ARYAHH!
ISN'T THERE A GIRL YOU'VE BEEN GOING OUT WITH FOR TWO YEARS ALREADY?
YEAH
TAP
YEAH.

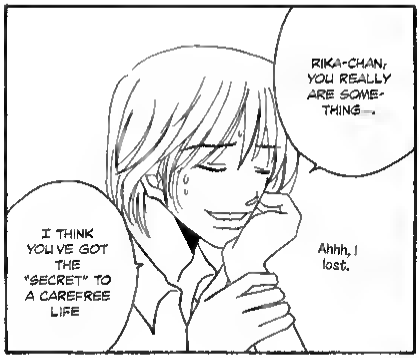

BECAUSE
I'VE FALLEN IN LOVE WITH YOU
WRONG.
..WHY?

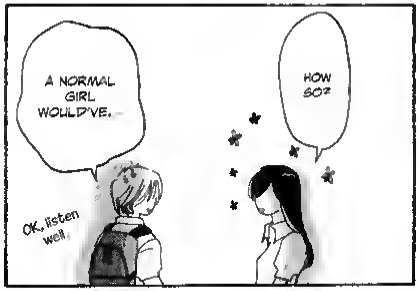
Why am I going out with you, then?

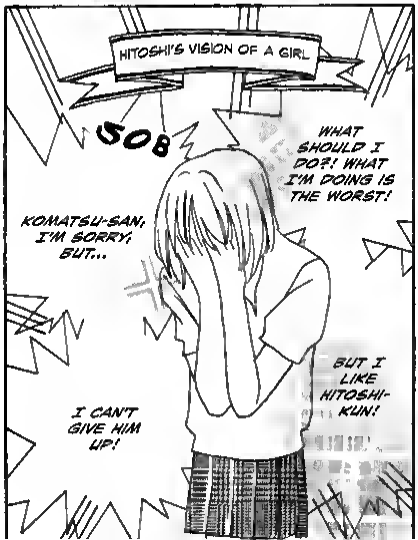
BECAUSE YOU'RE IN LOVE WITH ME
♫
HUHHH? I DON'T KNOW.


YOU HAVEN'T TALKED ABOUT HER EVEN ONCE. KOMATSU-SAN IS REALLY CUTE, AND SHE'S GOT A KIND PERSONALITY. EVERYONE IS ASKING WHY I'M PERSONALLY DOING THIS TO MAKE THAT KIND OF GIRL SAD...
YURIE KOMATSU


I WONDER WHY..
ARE YOU EVEN LISTENING?
To what I'm saying.


RIKA-CHAN, YOU REALLY ARE SOMETHING—.
Ahhh, I lost.
I THINK YOU'VE GOT THE "SECRET" TO A CAREFREE LIFE


HOW SO?
A NORMAL GIRL WOULD'VE—
OK, listen well.

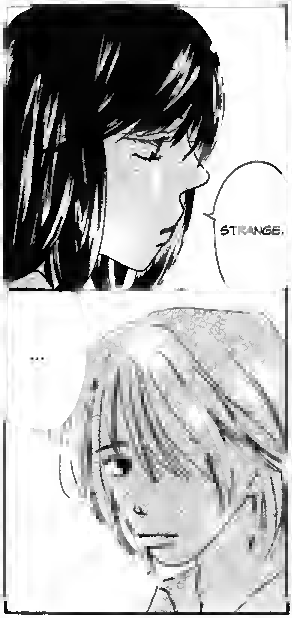

HITOSHI'S VISION OF A GIRL
SOB
WHAT SHOULD I DO?! WHAT I'M DOING IS THE WORST!
KOMATSU-SAN, I'M SORRY, BUT...
I CAN'T GIVE HIM UP!
BUT I LIKE HITOSHI-KUN!

I'M NOT EVEN CONSIDERED YOUR GIRLFRIEND. I DON'T HAVE ANY OBLIGATION TO YOU; I'M WITH YOU JUST BECAUSE
FURTHERMORE, YOU ALREADY HAVE A GIRLFRIEND! AREN'T YOU OVERDOING IT?!
DON'T SAY YOU'RE WITH ME "JUST BECAUSE!"
BUCK!

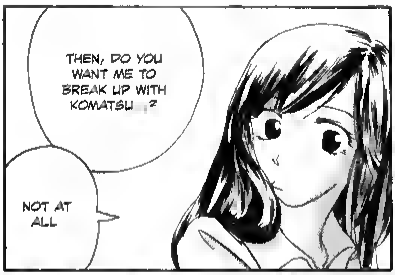
100 YEN.
...
CRASH FALLEN
COULDN'T YOU HAVE CRIED WHILE SAYING THAT?!
I ... DI ... OT.
Shut up
Am I wrong? Hey!
INSERT COIN PLEASE!!!
serious
PING PING
OH, YOU'RE SERIOUS, HUH?!
PING PING
QUIT IT, YOU!
...

LICK
DOONG
..WHAT WAS THAT JUST NOW?
AN EXPRESSION OF LOVE.
Because your cheeks looked cute.
BUT ISN'T THIS THE WRONG PLACE TO DO THAT SORT OF THING?
E OVE
07
INSERT COIN
YOU KNOW ... I'M REALLY FINE WITH IT.

I DON'T CARE AT ALL IF SHE FINDS OUT
YEAH, YEAH.
100 yen
100 yen
HONEY, I'M SERIOUS.
DARLING...
THAT'S OK. I LOVE YOU, ANYWAY, RIKA-CHAN.
Damn it Continue!
THANKS FOR THAT.
POP
LEND ME 100 YEN.
We're exchanging money again.
WHAT'RE YOU MAD FOR?



DO YOU REALLY LOVE ME?


THEN, DO YOU WANT ME TO BREAK UP WITH KOMATSU...?
NOT AT ALL

OK, END OF CONVERSATION.
BUT YA KNOW...

YEAH PERHAPS
Why?
"PERHAPS...?"

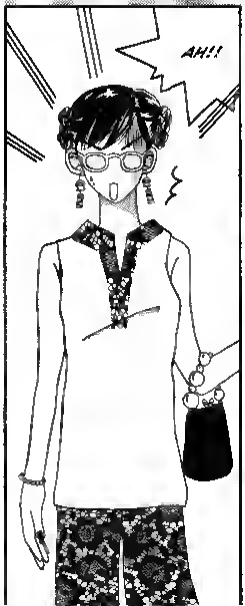
I'M SORRY!
EXPECTED PICTURE OF BEING BEATEN UP WHEN CLASSMATES FIND OUT.
UGLY!
GET OUT!
I DON'T BELIEVE YOU! SCUM! IDIOT!
YEAH.
SHUT UP!

SPEECHLESS
...
Girls are pretty scary nowadays.
SO IT'D BE BAD IF IT TURNED OUT LIKE THAT.

HONEY, ARE YOU FREE TOMORROW?

humph

YOU REALLY ARE AMUSING.
THAT SO?
It's not that

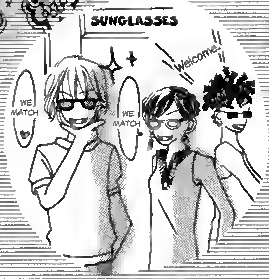

AH!!

PAT
PAT

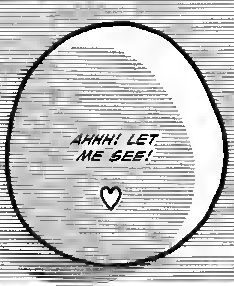
!!
?!

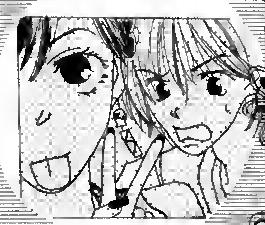
BUT IF WE SEE SOMEONE WE KNOW...
YOU STAND OUT TOO MUCH!

WHY'D YOU COME IN A DISGUISE?!
SALE!!
SALE!!
WHY'D YOU DO IT?!


SUNGLASSES
WE MATCH
WE MATCH
Welcome!!

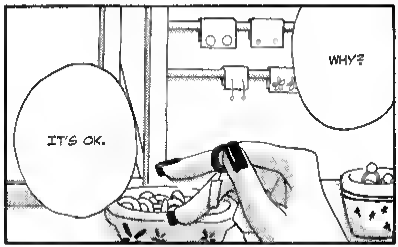
IT'S COLD
PUT THE FLAME OUT
SHUT UP
CLUB FLASH CLUB FLASH CL

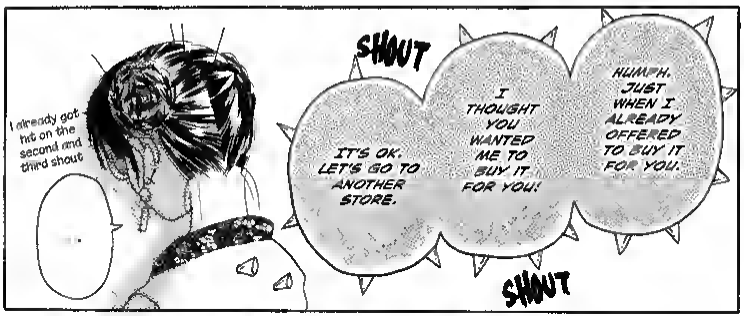

AHHH! LET ME SEE!



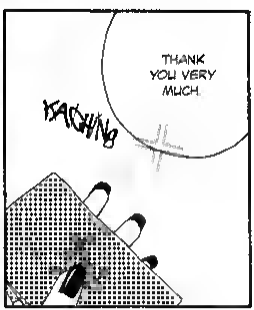
I'LL BUY IT FOR YOU
I'm a rich man today
NO NEED TO

¥300
WAHHH! THIS IS EXTREMELY CUTE!
WANT IT?


WHY?
IT'S OK.


I already got hit on the second and third shout
SHOUT
IT'S OK. LET'S GO TO ANOTHER STORE.
I THOUGHT YOU WANTED ME TO BUY IT FOR YOU.
HUMPH. JUST WHEN I ALREADY OFFERED TO BUY IT FOR YOU.
SHOUT

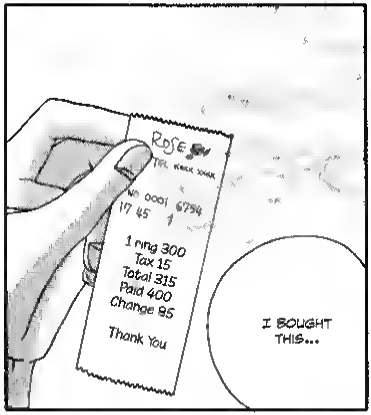
chirp
I'M GLAD TO.
THIS WON'T BE HAPPENING AGAIN.
Now I'm sure.
chirp
chatter
THA...
THANKS.
chatter

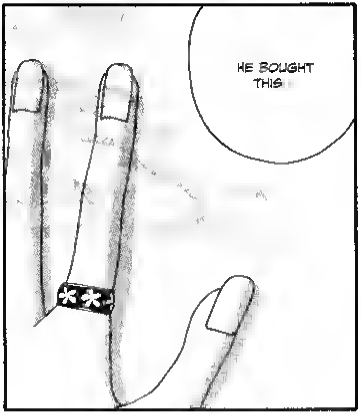

THANK YOU VERY MUCH.
RUSTLING

THEN, I SHOULD'VE GOTTEN SOMETHING MORE EXPENSIVE.
I SEE.
I have a bad feeling about this.
MIDNIGHT

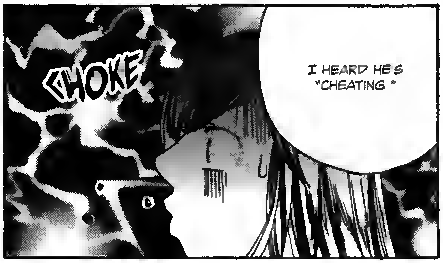
...

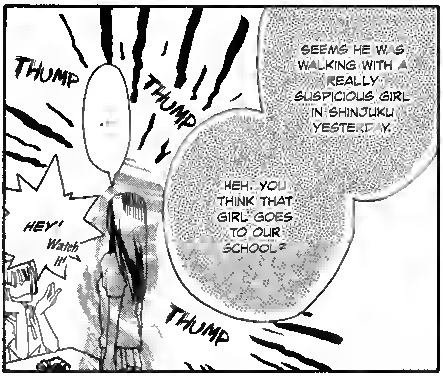
...


ROSE
1 ring 300
Tax 15
Total 315
Paid 400
Change 85
Thank You
I BOUGHT THIS...

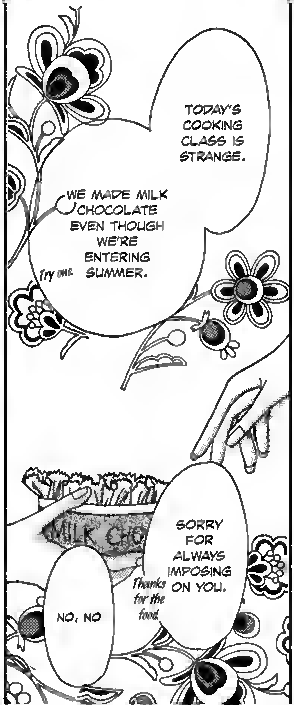

HE BOUGHT THIS

OHHH! THIS IS AMAZINGLY DELICIOUS!
ISN'T IT?
HAVE YOU HEARD ABOUT HITOSHI?


I HEARD HE'S "CHEATING."
CHOKE

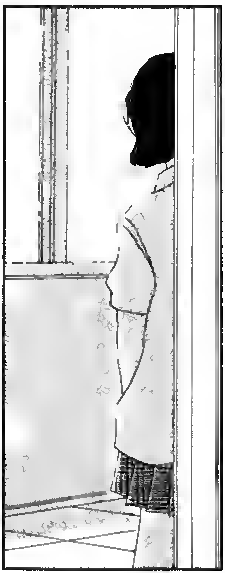

SEEMS HE WAS WALKING WITH A REALLY SUSPICIOUS GIRL IN SHINJUKU YESTERDAY.
HEH. YOU THINK THAT GIRL GOES TO OUR SCHOOL?
THUMP
THUMP
THUMP
HEY! Watch it!

What should I do?


TODAY'S COOKING CLASS IS STRANGE.
WE MADE MILK CHOCOLATE EVEN THOUGH WE'RE ENTERING SUMMER.
Try me.
MILK CHO
SORRY FOR ALWAYS IMPOSING ON YOU.
Thanks for the food.
NO, NO

WHIS
DER
I WONDER WHO THE OTHER GIRL IS.
THE WORST.
HAVE YOU HEARD ABOUT HITOSHI? I NEVER THOUGHT HE WAS THAT TYPE OF GUY.
KOMATSU-SAN'S SO CUTE, TOO. I HOPE SHE DOESN'T FIND OUT.
...
AS EXPECTED, HE'S SHALLOW.

SWAAAK

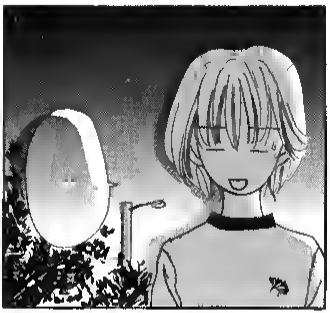


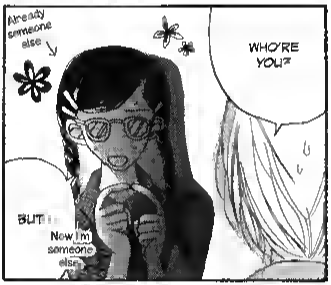
WHICH ONE OF THEM RATTED US OUT? HE'S PROBABLY KEEPING A LOW PROFILE BY BEING QUIET ABOUT IT AND ACTING NORMAL.
HEY, CHEATER.
bobble!
bobble!

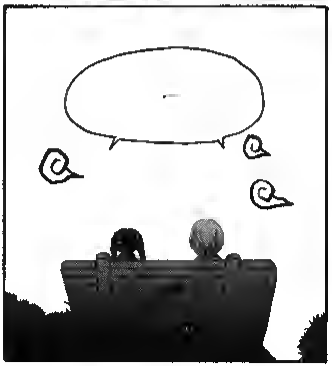
DON'T CALL ME "CHEATER."
YOUR GIRL-FRIEND--

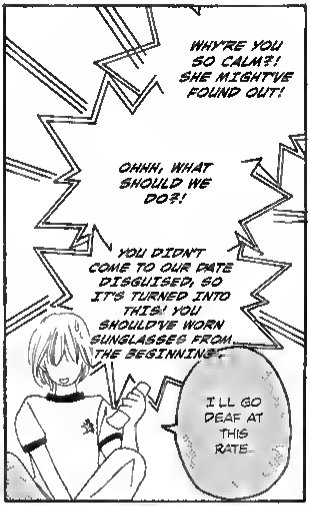
EH?!
AH...
IS THAT SO?
THAT'S RIGHT. YOU'RE BEING STRANGE, HITOSHI.
WHY DID I COME ALL THE WAY OVER HERE, RIGHT?
WELL, I JUST THOUGHT I'D SAY, "LET'S GO HOME TOGETHER."
HM...
DING
YOU'RE GOING BACK TO CLASS?
HM...
AH... THEN, I'LL MEET YOU AFTER CLASS...
See ya
DONG
TUG
...

...What?
LIKE USUAL YOU DIDN T LISTEN TO ME
THAT'S A GIVEN!!
I DON'T WANT YOU TO.

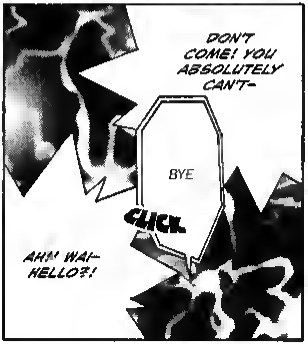



Already someone else
WHO'RE YOU?
BUT I...
Now I'm someone else.



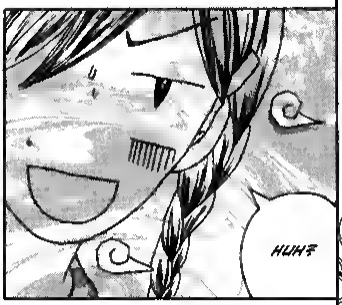

WHY'RE YOU SO CALM?! SHE MIGHT'VE FOUND OUT!
OHHH, WHAT SHOULD WE DO?!
YOU DIDN'T COME TO OUR DATE DISGUISED, SO IT'S TURNED INTO THIS! YOU SHOULD'VE WORN SUNGLASSES FROM THE BEGINNING!
I'LL GO DEAF AT THIS RATE...

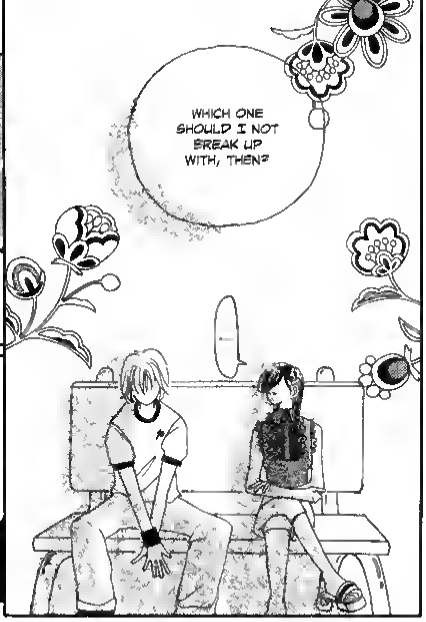
EH?
ANYWAY, I'M COMING OVER NOW

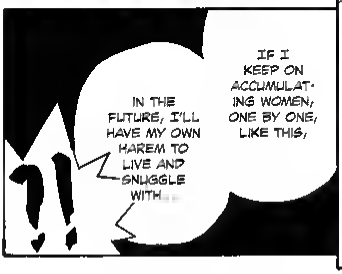

DON'T COME! YOU ABSOLUTELY CAN'T-
BYE
CLICK
AH! WAI- HELLO?!

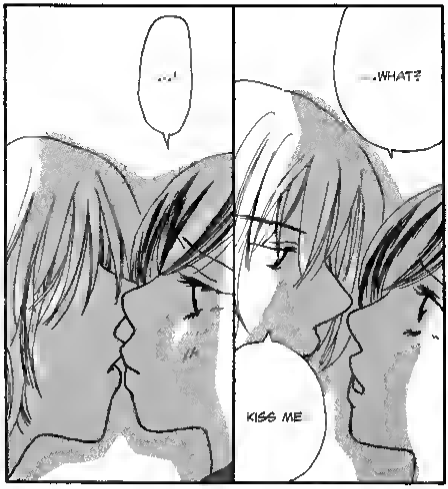
SO ... ARE WE GONNA BREAK UP FOR THE TIME BEING?
Today's our limit.
DEFINITELY NOT.
THEN, WHAT'LL WE DO?
WHA CHOO WE DO?
PLEASE
DON'T BREAK UP WITH KOMATSU-SAN
IT WAS A JOKE A JOKE!
Should I devour you?
LIKE THAT, HUH...?
DON'T SAY SUCH COLD WORDS
IF YOU DO THAT...
"I'LL START TO HATE YOU."

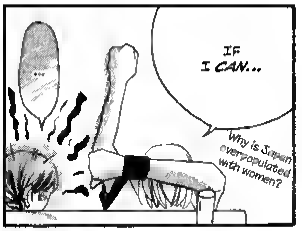
BUT, AREN'T YOU DECIDING ON IT?!
...
BECAUSE ... HAVEN'T YOU DECIDED ON IT?
...YOU GUESSED IT RIGHT
How'd you know?
FLICK
TODAY'S OUR LAST.
STARTING TOMORROW, I'LL DEVOTE MYSELF TO MY GIRLFRIEND ..
IS THAT OK?
YUP.
HEY...
LET'S NOT BREAK UP.
I THOUGHT THAT YOU'D END IT THIS WAY.

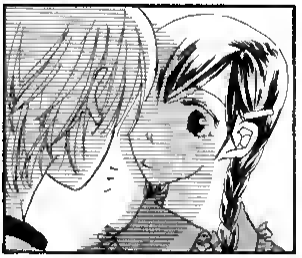

HUH?


WHICH ONE SHOULD I NOT BREAK UP WITH, THEN?


IF I KEEP ON ACCUMULATING WOMEN, ONE BY ONE, LIKE THIS,
IN THE FUTURE, I'LL HAVE MY OWN HAREM TO LIVE AND SNUGGLE WITH...
?!


...!
...WHAT?
KISS ME

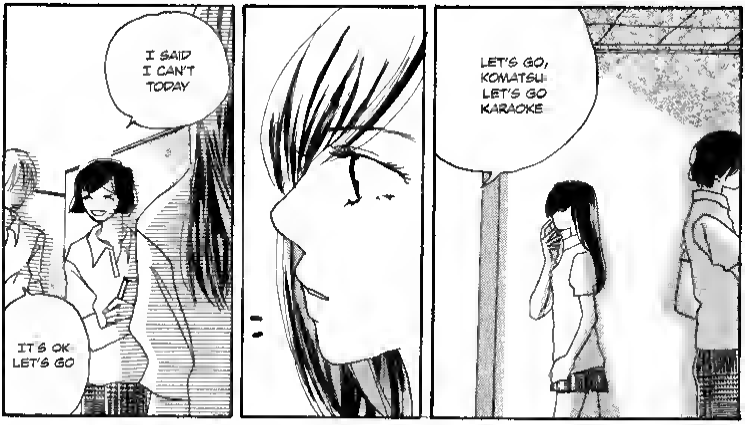

...
IF I CAN...
Why is Sumin overpopulated with women?



That kiss wasn't like the usual ones.

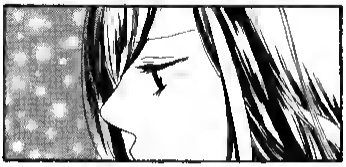
There was something else, then, too... I had an extremely bad feeling about it.

I didn't hear from him for a week after that.

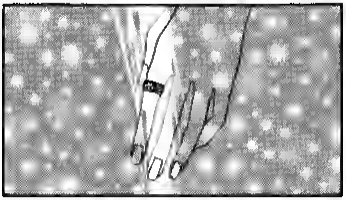


We were just fooling around in the beginning

I thought I'd be OK breaking up with him.



I enjoyed that one month.



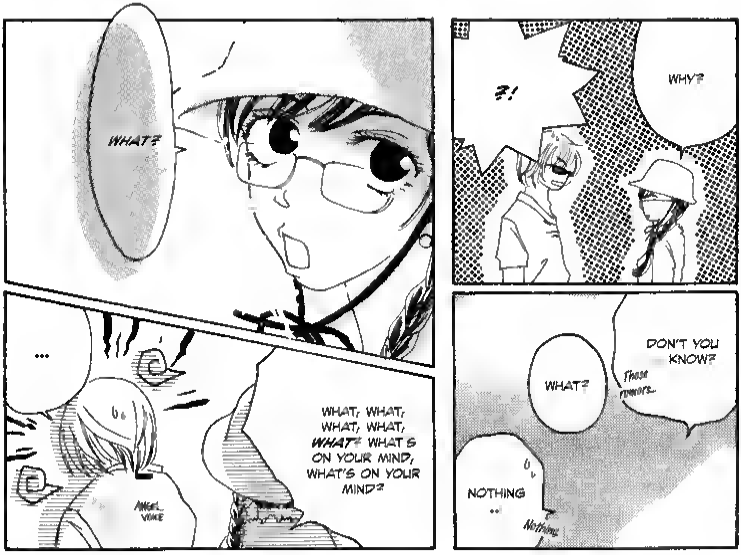
I HAVE TO TALK TO YOU...
THAT OVER THERE IS, TOO. ♡
IT'S CHARMING IN GOLD OR PLATINUM
HEY!
DIAMONDS ARE FRETTY.
HITOSHI, LOOK, LOOK! THIS IS AN AMAZING BARGAIN...
LISTEN.
ALL RIGHT. I'LL LISTEN.
...
BUT...
Bye-bye.
OHHH! THIS RING IS SUPER CUTE!
I WANT IT! ♡
AH, THIS ONE HERE IS REALLY CUTE, TOO, BUT IT'S EXPENSIVE.
HEY
KOWAI TSU
AHHH! THIS ONE'S REALLY NICE, TOO!

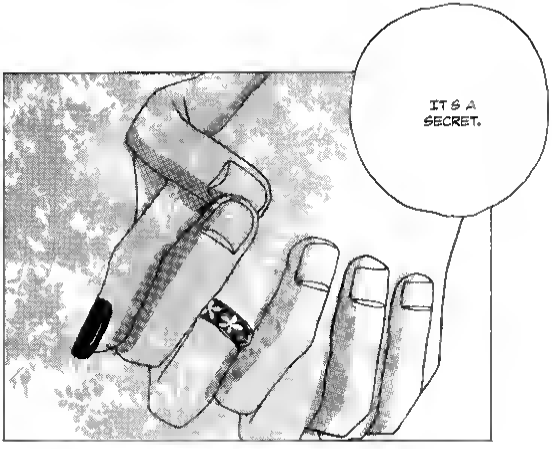
I CAN'T AFFORD IT
Plus sales tax
145,000 YEN...
BUY THIS.
¥145,000—
YOU'RE RIGHT THEN, A CHEAPER~
"I'll buy it for you."
"No need to."
"It's OK."
"Tha... thanks."
THIS ONE!
THIS IS OK, RIGHT?
It's 1,000 yen.

I know I'm on the list of the worst people in history for doing terrible things.
If she were to find out, everyone might beat me up.
I CAN'T AFFORD IT.
EH, THAT'S TRUE. I'M EVIL. I'LL SAY IT 'TIL I FALL...
HUH...?
I should say it... That's why I'm here!!
UMM...
AH... UMM...
WHAT?
WAH!
NEED SOMETHING?

BECAUSE, WELL, 'TIL NOW, I'VE COMPLETELY DECEIVED EVERYONE. BUT DON'T WORRY. I ABSOLUTELY WON'T TALK TO YOU AT SCHOOL, YOU WON'T RECEIVE CALLS FROM ME... AH, AND IT'S COMPLETELY FINE THAT WE'RE NEVER TOGETHER AT CHRISTMAS OR BIRTHDAYS... YEAH...
SO...
I'M FINE BEING "SECOND" PLACE
HUH?
IT REALLY IS OVER WITH ME, HUH?
...HITOSHI-KUN?
UMMM
...

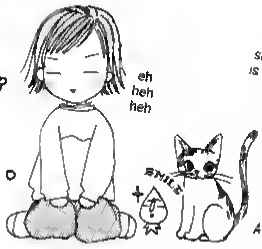
I just want to be with Hitoshi.
THANKS FOR WAITING, DARLING.
IT'S OK EVEN IF YOU DON'T DISGUISE YOURSELF ANYMORE.
You're actually more noticeable like that.
SOME-THING HAPPEN?
WHAT'S WRONG?
...
...
YOU'RE HOLDING ME...
Even if all my friends become my enemies, even if I'm all alone tomorrow, even if I'm not his (official) girlfriend,


WHAT?
...
WHAT, WHAT, WHAT, WHAT, WHAT? WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND, WHAT'S ON YOUR MIND?
ANGEL VOICE
?!
WHY?
WHAT?
DON'T YOU KNOW?
Those rumors.
NOTHING ...
Nothing.


IT'S A SECRET.

The End

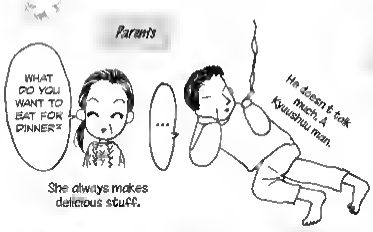
Self Introduction


This time I got to put out a special book, so I'm indeed happy.
eh heh heh
This is a silly collection of short stories, but if everyone is reading it in their free time, I'll be happy once more
Yours truly, Mimori Ao.
SMILE
If it was boring, I'm sorry.
A called cat

WAHHHH!
Old man
Old man
She has to meet them everyday
SOMEWAY OR ANOTHER I GOT INTO COLLEGE REALLY FAR FROM HOME
IN HIGH SCHOOL, I WAS SERIOUS ABOUT ENTERING THE FBI OR CIA
I AIMED TO BE A VETERINARIAN IN GRADE SCHOOL AND MIDDLE SCHOOL
All alone & being sentimental
THEN, I FOUND THE ROAD TO BEING A MANGAKA
I WANT TO JUST WORK WHERE I CAN BE AT HOME!
This might not be true to my nature.
IF YOU GET IN, I CAN, TOO
I'LL GET INTO THE FBI
On what grounds?
Best friend (outside note)
That's rather discomforting
I UNDERSTAND LIFE NOW
LUCKILY, I BECAME A MANGAKA
IT'S TRUE
BUT IT COULDN'T BE HELPED! I KNEW IT WAS USELESS FOR A JAPANESE
BUT I REALIZED THAT SCIENCE DIDN'T SEEM TO BE MY BEST SUBJECT
My homeroom teacher said so. It might be a lie, though.
Not one of my friends will say, "That's not how it is."

My attempt at drawing people who have helped me.

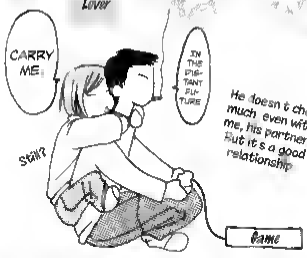
Parents



She always makes delicious stuff.

Cat

Lover



He doesn't chat much even with me, his partner. But it's a good relationship.

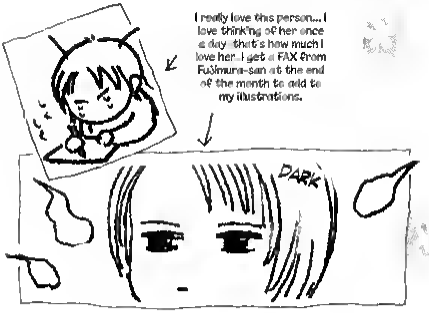
Friend

I've known her for 10 years.

Shinri Fujimura-san

Homeroom Teacher

I relied on this guy deeper than the depth of the sea. I'm not exaggerating when I say I draw manga to praise him. I want to try being caring throughout the whole series after this.


I really love this person... I love thinking of her once a day. That's how much I love her. I get a FAX from Fujimura-san at the end of the month to add to my illustrations.
DARK